

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Best Dutch towns for tilting at windmills**

Travel magazine, starting on Page 21



**Elite forces losing personnel to higher-paying jobs**

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**Will Olympics produce any household names?**

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Volume 63, No. 96 © EPSS 2004

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THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2004

50¢

# DOD considers extending Iraq duty for Guard units

Guardsmen would be taken past two-year limit Page 4

**Refueling teams adapt to operations out of Rhein-Main**

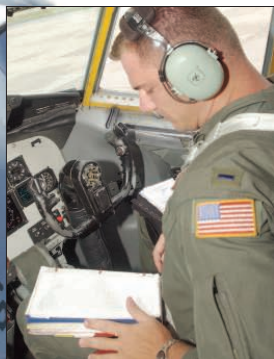
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ABOVE: LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

CENTER: PHOTO BY LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MORGAN LOOSLI/Stars and Stripes



RAYMOND CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Above: Co-pilot 1st Lt. Rob Garrison looks over his checklist Tuesday prior to a KC-135 Stratotanker refueling mission at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany. Garrison and airmen from the 186th Air Refueling Wing, 153 Air Refueling Squadron, out of Meridian, Miss., are temporarily flying missions from Rhein-Main as the runway in Incirlik, Turkey, is repaired.

Center: The KC-135's boom makes contact with an Iraq-bound C-17 Globemaster III as refueling begins. Far left: Air Force Master Sgt. Glenn Hancock lines up the boom during the refueling over the Black Sea.

## STARS &amp; STRIPES

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Brain-damaged woman:** The parents of a brain-damaged Tampa, Fla., woman at the center of a right-to-die case said Tuesday that recent statements by Pope John Paul II are proof that their daughter would choose to live in her current condition.

Based on the pope's stated position that people in vegetative states still have the right to nutrition and health care, an attorney for Bob and Mary Schindler filed papers asking a judge to end efforts by Terri Schiavo's husband to end her life.

"Terri wants to live," said Pat Anderson, the Schindlers' attorney. "Terri wants to do what the pope has instructed her to do, which is basically what God has instructed her to do."

**McDonald's game scam:** A Jacksonville, Fla., appeals court has thrown out the convictions of four men found guilty in a multi-million-dollar scheme to cash in on stolen winning tickets in McDonald's promotional games such as "Monopoly" and "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found "a complete failure of proof" on the conspiracy charge and concluded the men were convicted of a conspiracy that they were not charged with.

The decision means that George Chandler, Jerome Pearl, John Henderson and Kenneth Whitefield cannot be retried, and restitution orders ranging up to \$786,500 each are rescinded. Mastermind Jerome Jacobson was sentenced to three years in prison and was not covered by the appeal.

**Economic recovery:** Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Wednesday that President Bush's three rounds of tax cuts prevented a severe recession and helped spark the current economic recovery.

But he warned that Congress must pay attention to the long-term consequences of its spending and tax decisions in order to keep rising budget deficits from harming the country's growth potential.

**Peterson murder trial:** Prosecutors in Scott Peterson's murder trial are again portraying the former fertilizer salesman as a lying philanderer who didn't act the part of a grieving husband after his pregnant wife, Laci, vanished.

Modesto police Detective Richard House testified Tuesday in Redwood City, Calif., that Peterson received a private mailbox on Dec. 23, 2002, a day before he reported Laci missing. On Jan. 9, 2003, House said, Peterson received a letter to the mailbox from his mistress, Amber Freely.

Prosecutors allege the affair was the motive for the slaying.

**Escaped tiger shooting:** The Loxahatchee, Fla., agency responsible for fatally shooting an escaped 600-pound tiger has received at least five death threats and is urging some employees to wear street clothes instead of uniforms.

The directive Tuesday came a week after an officer with the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shot Bobo the tiger when the big cat lunged at him during a hunt that lasted 26 hours.

The shooting set off a public outcry, including criticism from the tiger's owner, former Tarzan actor Steve Sipek.



**Asia flooding:** Women board a small boat as others waded through a flooded street near Gauhati, India, on Wednesday. Officials in India's remote northeast put the army on alert after flood waters reached the outer suburbs of Gauhati. Some 535 people have been killed in South Asia by floods, electrocution and waterborne diseases since the rains began.

## World

**Fiji coup trials:** A group of 21 Fiji army troops were convicted Wednesday for their parts in a mutiny in 2000 that left eight soldiers dead in gun battles at the nation's main military base.

The mutineers aimed to kill the armed forces chief, Commodore Frank Bainimarama, and bring down the South Pacific nation's interim government in the aftermath of a nationalist coup that toppled the country's first ethnic Indian-led government.

The plotters at the Queen Elizabeth barracks, some key members of the army's elite counter-terror unit, wanted to replace the interim government with an ethnic Fijian nationalist regime — and free coup leader George Speight from prison.

Bainimarama was warned of the impending mutiny and fled from the base on the outskirts of the capital, Suva, as the plotters attacked his headquarters.

**Fischer's detainment:** Former world chess champion Bobby Fischer has appealed Japanese plans to deport him to the United States and hopes to find political asylum in a third country, a friend said Wednesday.

Fischer was detained by Japanese immigration officials last week after trying to leave the country for the Philippines. Officials say his passport was invalid, and on Tuesday confirmed that he was being processed for deportation.

Fischer is wanted in the United States for playing a rematch against Soviet world champion Boris Spassky in Yugoslavia in 1992.

Yugoslavia was under international sanctions at the time, and U.S. citizens were banned from doing business there.

Fischer won the match and more than \$3 million in prize money.

**Seminary porn scandal:** A special Vatican inspector began his inquiry Wednesday into the discovery of a vast cache of child

pornography at a Vienna, Austria, seminary where candidates for the priesthood photographed themselves kissing and fondling each other.

Austrian Bishop Klaus Kueang was appointed Tuesday as Pope John Paul II's "apostolic visitor" to deal with a scandal that has deeply embarrassed the Roman Catholic Church. Kueang said he had already spoken with Kurt Krenn, the embattled churchman in charge of the seminary.

Kueang will report his findings directly to the pope.

**Same-sex divorce:** A lesbian couple is seeking what one of their lawyers believe is Canada's first same-sex divorce, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The women, identified only as M.M. and J.H., were married on June 18, 2003, one week after the Ontario Court of Appeal legalized same-sex marriage. The Toronto Star reported.

The couple separated five days after the wedding, ending a five-year relationship. J.H.'s lawyer Julie Hannaford told the newspaper.

The petition, filed in the Superior Court of Justice last month, will add a new facet to the contentious legal debate over same-sex marriage. The Supreme Court of Canada is holding hearings on the legality of same-sex marriages in the fall.

**Ukrainian mine fire:** Emergency workers labored to extinguish a fire deep in a Ukrainian mine Wednesday, two days after an explosion killed 31 and left five missing. Nearby, distraught relatives clustered at the mine's entrance.

A massive methane and coal dust blast sparked the blaze Monday evening in Rodnischevo as 48 miners were changing shifts at a coal face 1,800 feet below the surface. Twelve escaped unharmed.

**Pakistan, India nuclear talks:** Pakistani and Indian foreign ministers held "frank" and "honest" discussions at a regional conference in Islamabad, Pakistan, on Wednesday, hoping to speed the pace of peace talks that have given new hope the nuclear-armed neighbors might permanently end decades of hostility.

Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri met his Indian counterpart, Natwar Singh, over breakfast at Islamabad's Marriott Hotel.

Stories and photos from wire services

Comics, horoscopes and advice  
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## Correction

A story in Wednesday's editions on involuntary reclassifications for some soldiers should have said the Air Force needs to cut 22,000 airmen by Sept. 30, 2005.

# Militants take 6 hostages

## Death toll for U.S. troops killed in Iraq hits 900

By RAVI NESSMAN  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A militant group said Wednesday that it had taken six more hostages — three Indians, two Kenyans and an Egyptian — and would behead them if their countries did not immediately announce the withdrawal of their citizens from Iraq.

The U.S. death toll since the start of the war rose to 900 when a roadside bomb killed a soldier.

The seizure of the hostages came a day after a Filipino truck driver was released in exchange for Manila's withdrawal of its 51-member troop contingent — a move criticized by Washington and other allies as encouraging more abductions.

Those fears seemed to be realized with the new kidnappings.

In a statement given to The Associated Press, the group, calling itself "The Holders of the Black Banners," said it had abducted the six truckers and would behead one of them every 72 hours starting at 8 p.m. Wednesday if their nations did not pull out of Iraq and the company they work for did not close its branch here.

"We have warned all the countries, companies, businessmen and truck drivers that those who deal with American covert occupiers will be targeted by the fires of the Mujahideen," the statement said. "Here you are once again transporting, goods, weapons and military equipment that backs the U.S. Army."

None of the countries are part of the 160,000-member coalition force in Iraq, however. Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi appealed last week to India and Egypt to join the coalition and send troops.

More than 60 foreigners have been taken hostage in Iraq in recent months.

Also on Wednesday, U.S. allies Poland, Japan and Bulgaria rejected threats of new attacks by militants if they don't pull their troops out of Iraq.

In violence Wednesday, a car bomb went off in eastern Baghdad, killing four people, witnesses said.

New clashes between U.S. forces and insurgents in a residential area near the city of Ramadi killed five Iraqis and wounded 17 others, said Dr. Mohammed Ali of Ramadi emergency hospital. Some of the casualties occurred when a U.S. military helicopter attacked a building in the area near Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad.

The U.S. death toll as counted by The Associated Press reached 900 with the report by Maj. Neal O'Brien of the 1st Infantry Division, who said the bomb killed the American soldier shortly after midnight during a patrol in a Bradley fighting vehicle in Dulaiyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad.

On Tuesday, the military said two U.S. Marines and two U.S. soldiers were killed in Anbar Province, a Sunni-dominated area west of Baghdad. The Marines were killed in separate incidents while conducting "security operations"; one soldier was killed Monday, and a second died Monday of wounds.

Counts of the number of U.S. servicemen

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, 893 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 659 died as a result of hostile action and 234 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 755 U.S. servicemen have died, 550 as a result of hostile action and 205 of nonhostile causes.

Since the start of U.S. military operations in Iraq, 5,804 U.S. servicemen have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defense Department's weekly tally.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command:

■ Two Marines were killed in separate incidents Tuesday in Iraq's Anbar province.

■ Two soldiers died Monday. One was killed in Iraq's Anbar province; the second died of wounds.

killed in Iraq vary, with some already exceeding the 900 figure. The Pentagon's latest casualty update, released Tuesday before the five deaths, put the death toll at 893 servicemen, plus two civilian Defense Department employees.

The number of U.S. casualties has dropped considerably from its high point in April, when 135 troops were killed during the worst outbreak of anti-coalition violence since the end of major hostilities May 1, 2003. The drop in casualties to pre-April levels followed a Marine pullout from the city of Fallujah — the scene of heavy fighting — and a series of informal cease fires with Shiite militants who had fought U.S. forces in Baghdad and across central and southern Iraq.

But violent attacks have continued to rise against Iraqi officials and police, whom insurgents view as collaborators with U.S. forces.

A member of Baghdad's provincial council, Saheb al-Ka'abi, was injured in an assassination attempt, and he was in a stable condition, according to an official at Ibn al-Nafis Hospital, where al-Ka'abi was taken.

A roadside bomb hit an Iraqi police patrol early Wednesday in the Gharmata district of Kirkuk in the country's north, killing one police officer and injuring another, said police official Salhat Kadir.



Iraqi women walk past Iraqi army soldiers on patrol in Baghdad on Tuesday. The army's 2nd Battalion, trained in counter-insurgency operations, is the first unit to go into service with the new Iraqi army.



American Jonathan Keith Idema, 48, charged with running his own private prison and torture chamber in Kabul, is led by Afghan police to his trial Wednesday. Idema and two American subordinates, Edward Caraballo and Brett Bennett, were arrested when Afghan security forces raided a house in Kabul on July 5. American and Afghan officials say they were vigilantes posing as U.S. special forces and had no official backing.

## Americans accused of torturing Afghan prisoners go on trial

By STEPHEN GRAHAM  
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Three Americans went on trial Wednesday on charges they tortured eight prisoners in a private jail, with the group's leader saying he had tacit support from senior Pentagon officials who once offered to put his team under contract.

The U.S. military says the men were freelancers operating outside the law and without their knowledge.

Jonathan Idema, Brett Bennett and Edward Caraballo were arrested when Afghan security forces raided their makeshift jail in Kabul on July 5.

Standing before a three-judge panel in a heavily guarded national security court, the men listened quietly to the charges — including hostage-taking and "mental and physical torture."

Three of their former captives described being beaten, held under water and left without food.

The Americans didn't testify. But Idema said afterward that the abuse allegations were invented. He said his men had arrested "world-class terrorists" and said he was in daily telephone and e-mail contact with officials "at the highest level" of the U.S. Defense Department.

Idema named a Pentagon official who he said "applauded our efforts" and wanted to place the group under contract — a proposal they refused for fear it would limit their freedom to operate.

"The American authorities absolutely condoned what we did, they absolutely supported what we did," he told reporters crowding around the dock. "We have extensive evidence of that."

An official from the U.S. Embassy observed the trial but declined to comment on the proceedings, where only one of the Americans had a lawyer.

Afghan and U.S. officials have left open whether the men, who face up to 20 years in Afghan jails if convicted, might be sent to the United States to face charges.

Judge Abdul Basit Bakhtiyari asked the defendants for two weeks to give the three Americans and the four Afghans accused of helping them time to prepare their defense.

There was no attorney for Idema, a bearded former American soldier once convicted of fraud, who appeared in court in a khaki uniform with a reversed American flag on the shoulder.

Idema wore sunglasses in the courtroom, completing a look that once fooled even NATO peacekeepers, who sent explosives experts to help him with three raids before realizing they had been duped into thinking he was with U.S. special operations.

Idema, who is reportedly 48, told reporters his group had halted a plot to blow up the main U.S. military base with fuel trucks and assassinate Afghan leaders. "We're talking about world-class terrorists," he said.

He also said his group delivered suspects to American special forces in the past.

Maj. Rick Peart, a U.S. military spokesman in Kabul, said he had no information on such a handover.

In court, Idema interrupted the judge to complain about the poor translation and glowered at his former prisoners and his Afghan assistants as they testified.

Turbaned men in the audience groaned in disapproval when prosecutor Mohammed Naem Dawari said Afghan defendants told interrogators the Americans were "always drunk" and brought women to the house.

The American military says it has no idea what motivated Idema's group, which flew into Afghanistan on April 14. But there were indications they were intent on making money.

# POD may exceed Guard unit's duty in Iraq

## Schoomaker confirms discussion of keeping guardsmen in war zone beyond two-year limit

By MARK MAZZETTI

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — In yet another sign of the strains on the U.S. military in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and the Iraq war, the Pentagon for the first time is considering extending the mobilization of National Guard soldiers who will soon hit the federal limit of 24 months of active service, defense officials said Tuesday.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker was asked about the issue during a Wednesday House Armed Services Committee hearing on Army transformation. Extending the Guard members' tours "is a decision in progress," that will ultimately need approval from Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Schoomaker told the questioner, Arkansas Democrat Vic Snyder.

Pressed again by Snyder, Schoomaker quietly consulted with his deputy chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, and then reiterated, "I'm not aware that a decision has been made."

In a Wednesday news conference, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said he has no plans to extend the deployments, but didn't shut the door to the pos-

sibility.

"No, we don't plan at the moment to extend people beyond 24 months," Rumsfeld said. "But one should never say never.... The facts on the ground will determine what we do."

Initially, the decision would affect about 450 soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard who are in Iraq with the 39th Brigade Combat Team. The soldiers, mobilized after Sept. 11 and first sent to the Sinai Peninsula on a peacekeeping rotation, are the first group of National Guard troops to approach the 24-month limit that the Pentagon established days after the terrorist attacks in the United States.

Ultimately, however, waiving the limit in this case might lead to extended deployments for thousands of other reservists and National Guard members in Iraq and Afghanistan, and provide ammunition to critics in Congress who are pushing the Bush administration to increase the size of the military.

"Every day it seems to be another improvisational attempt to stretch forces that are already stretched very thin," said Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., a former paratrooper with the Army's 82nd Airborne Division and an advocate of

bolstering the Army's ranks.

But the status of the soldiers, being considered by David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, has not yet been decided, Pentagon officials said.

"This is the first time this has happened, we're breaking new ground here," said Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a Defense Department spokeswoman.

Doing away with the 24-month limit would be certain to upset many long-serving soldiers and their families, who say they are increasingly bearing the weight of a military stretched beyond its capacity. Over the last year, the conflict in Iraq has forced the Pentagon to keep more than 100,000 soldiers and Marines in the country for months after the Bush administration had expected to draw down the troop presence.

The Pentagon has issued orders preventing military personnel from leaving active duty, extended the tours of thousands of troops when insurgent activity in Iraq crested in the spring, and pulled troops out of South Korea to fill out Iraq rotations.

Last month, the Army was forced to dip into its pool of Individual Ready Reserve soldiers — troops who are not members of a specific Reserve unit but have unexpired obligations to complete their military service — looking for roughly 5,600 to deploy to Iraq and fill out Iraq rotations.

In a memo to top military officials dated Sept. 20, 2001, Chu established the 24-month policy to ensure that deployments abroad would not place an excessive strain on reservists and National Guard troops accustomed to a life of active duty.

The 39th Brigade Combat Team — made up of National Guard troops from several states — is a mechanized infantry unit currently based in Tajik, about 10 miles north of Baghdad. When the unit went to Iraq in April, commanders were aware that hundreds of its soldiers would hit their 24-month limit while they were deployed there, most beginning in September.

As a result, Brig. Gen. Ronald Chastain, the brigade's commander, filed a request with the Pentagon to extend the soldiers' tours. Chu is considering that waiver request.

Since the 39th Brigade Combat Team entered Iraq, 13 soldiers from the unit have been killed by enemy attacks, said Capt. Kristine Mann, a unit spokeswoman.

Five were killed in a single weekend, four of those when mortar rounds hit the brigade's compound in Tajik.

If the Defense Department retains the 24-month limit, those Arkansas National Guard troops whose active-duty commitments are set to expire would be free to return home. They also would have the option of volunteering to remain in Iraq on active duty, defense officials said.

In the corridors of the Pentagon, a major concern is that the Sept. 11 attacks will ultimately take its toll on retention and recruiting, both in the active service and the Reserves. Thus far, the Army has been able to meet recruiting goals for the active force, but is falling short of its goal for the number of soldiers for the National Guard.

There are now more than 131,000 Army National Guard



Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker

troops and reservists on active duty, in most cases for 15- to 18-month stints.

Yet even as the Pentagon struggles to meet its global commitments, top defense officials repeatedly have said that there is a cause to expand the size of the military, as some lawmakers from both parties have been urging.

"There's folks in the Pentagon who refuse to admit that we're in for a long time in Iraq and Afghanistan," Reed said.

The Senate last month voted overwhelmingly to increase the Army by 20,000 soldiers, and the House voted for a 30,000-troop increase. The White House maintains its opposition to a permanent increase.

Stars and Stripes reporter Lisa Burgess contributed to this report from the Pentagon.

# Study: Army Reserve soldiers encounter pay problems

By STEVE GOLDSTEIN

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Ninety-five percent of soldiers at eight Army Reserve units sent to Iraq and other Middle East bases experienced significant problems getting paid, creating stress and concern about the financial well-being of their families back home.

The soldiers were overpaid or underpaid or paid late, according to a study by the Government Accountability Office, and the problems in some instances persisted for more than a year.

Soldiers involved in the investigation said the pay issues hurt morale and the Army Reserve's rate of retention. "You never want to mess with a soldier's money. That's a cardinal rule," said Army Capt. Orlando Amaro. "When a soldier has financial issues, the morale just goes through the floor."

Amaro was a platoon leader for the 443rd Military Police Company from Owings Mills, Md., when the unit was in Baghdad from May through December 2003. Usually all of the 121 soldiers in his company had pay problems.

"Most of the problems stemmed from soldiers not getting additional allotments, such as family separation pay and combat-zone allotments," said Amaro, a native

## GAO faults 'complex' Pentagon pay process, lack of well-trained military staff for mix-ups

Philadelphia who is an officer in the Washington, D.C., police department.

Pay issues were so pressing, Amaro said in an interview, that he and another officer with a background in finances flew to Kuwait roughly every two weeks for five months to try to resolve these problems and prevent new mistakes from occurring.

The two officers flew to Kuwait on space-available flights but then had to rent a car with their own money to drive to the finance office.

Amaro and other soldiers, GAO investigators and Pentagon officials were scheduled to appear Monday at a hearing before a panel of the House Committee on Government Reform. The GAO study follows an examination of Army National Guard soldiers late last year that revealed similar problems.

Rep. Todd R. Platts of Pennsylvania, chairman of the subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management, has been working with the Department of Defense to try to correct the pay glitches, which he called "outrageous."

"These are men and women going into harm's way," Platts said, "and we should be doing everything to support them, not creating stress and uncertainty."

Apart from affecting what he called "mission performance," Platts said these issues had been shown to cause troops to decide not to re-enlist.

Sgt. Jesus Salcedo of York, Pa., served 11 months with the 443rd in Baghdad and said he was never sure he was receiving the correct pay.

"I was confused. I discovered he had been shortchanged on his enlistment bonus and still has not been paid his per diem for travel back to the United States."

Sgt. Cory L. In a combat environment, find out if my 4-month-old and my 5½-year-old kids are taken care of?" said Salcedo, a corrections officer at York County Prison. "I don't want to be rash, but it was like a slap in the face."

"I came home and they threw me a parade. Wonderful," he said. "But it's not paying my bills."

Almost half of the Army's Reserve — about 98,000 soldiers — have been mobilized to active duty at some point since September 2001, according to the GAO.

The agency studied eight Army Reserve units, including the 431st Chemical Detachment in Johnstown, Pa. Ninety-five percent of the soldiers were affected, with many experiencing more than one variety of pay problem.

Of the 348 reservists — all of whom were mobilized at some point between August 2002 and January 2004 — 256 received an estimated \$247,000 in overpayments, 294 received about \$51,000 in underpayments, and 245 soldiers received about \$77,000 in late payments, the GAO found.

In addition, none of the 303 who deployed to designated combat zones received the proper tax exemptions.

"The consequences of inaccurate, late and missing payments and associated erroneous debts had a profound impact on individual soldiers and their families," said the prepared testimony of GAO investigator Gregory D. Kutz. "At one unit several soldiers told us that they had to borrow money from friends and relatives in order to pay their bills when they initially deployed overseas."

The GAO faulted "cumbersome and complex" Pentagon pay processes, a shortage of well-trained military pay staff, and weaknesses in the computerized pay systems used by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.



# American troops welcome NATO help in Iraq

## Alliance expected to announce plan by month's end

BY WARD SANDERSON  
Stars and Stripes

The NATO alliance has yet to say just how it will aid Iraqi security forces, but is expected to make an announcement before month's end.

Meanwhile, some U.S. troops on desert duty say they welcome any help the alliance could give to get more local boots on the sweltering, perilous beat.

"I think our allies should train more Iraqis so we have more Iraqi folks on the streets," said Spc. Franklin Ball, a 850th Transportation Company soldier who often drives between Baghdad and Balad. "I see more Iraqi forces out there, but there should be more of them pulling security."

The alliance has agreed in principle to train the forces, but exactly how it will work — or where it will take place — is up in the air.

"There has been no decision on that," a NATO press official said. "We are waiting for advice from a team that went to Iraq, and the secretary-general is also going to write a report."

That report will go to the North Atlantic Council, which is made up of representatives from the 26 member states. The Unit-



**Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari, attending The Sixth Conference of Foreign Affairs Ministers of the Countries Neighboring Iraq in Cairo, Egypt, on Wednesday, meet with NATO officials last week to help speed up his request for training and equipment.**

ed States had wanted NATO to dispatch troops to Iraq, but Germany and France were against approving actual deployments. Instead, a compromise deal announced at last month's Istanbul Summit allows the allies to train Iraqi forces inside or outside the country.

Last week, Iraq's foreign minister, Hoshiyar Zebari visited Brussels, Belgium, to

meet with the council and speed up the program.

"Our requests have been that we need this training you promised us in Istanbul to be carried out as soon as possible," Zebari said, according to a news conference transcript. "We need it, in fact we are in a race against time and it's a matter of urgency."

The NATO secretary-general, Jaap de

Hoop Scheffer, said the training could take several forms, including training border guards.

"Let there be no mistake, it will be an implementation of the decision taken in Istanbul," de Hoop Scheffer said. "... The efforts and the results of these efforts must be visible very quickly indeed to inspire confidence."

A NATO press official said that the training would most likely focus on the Iraqi army, as opposed to any kind of police force. Zebari, the foreign minister, also asked for equipment, though he wasn't specific about what that meant. No mention of equipment was made in the alliance's summit agreement.

The NATO official said that while that may be the case, the alliance would likely attempt to help. However, the only equipment the alliance has of its own are Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft, meaning that any other help would be given individually by member states.

Though the United States originally wanted the alliance to send troops, one American officer serving in Iraq was glad NATO had agreed only to train security forces there.

"Now that Iraq has sovereignty, it should be Iraqi forces providing security," said 2nd Lt. Brent Barnes of the Joint South Task Force. "Unless they are training Iraqi forces, it's not the coalition forces that should be seen on the streets of Iraq."

Reporter Rick Emert contributed to this report from Baghdad.

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sandersonw@mail.strips.osd.mil

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# What happened to Scott Speicher?

## After two wars in Iraq, questions about Navy pilot's fate remain unanswered

BY RANDALL RICHARD  
The Associated Press

Lt. Barry Hull emerged from his F/A-18 Hornet and climbed onto the deck of the USS Saratoga, unharmed by his landing. He knew to expect better when his squadron mate, Lt. Cmdr. Scott Speicher, zoomed into the aircraft carrier from the sky over the Red Sea.

Speicher's landing, of course, would be perfect. He was the best Navy pilot in the squadron.

Cmdr. Michael "Spike" Anderson had led the squad out of the heliport over Baghdad. Once over the sea, he had radioed the others. All but Speicher had checked in.

Hull didn't worry at first, he remembered. They all figured "Spike" was out of range. Hull radioed: "Come in, Spike. This is Skull. Talk to me!" Nothing. So they waited.

It was Jan. 17, 1991, a war with Iraq beginning, and American planes were in the air. But Speicher, 33, didn't land that day. He never landed, and he never came home.

They declared him dead at first, the secretary of defense said it on live TV. His widow remarried, his children grew. But then doubts began to worm their way in. Odd clues surfaced. A shadowy informant told a story. After a decade, the Pentagon changed its mind: Speicher, it said, was not dead but missing or captured.

Did Speicher tumble from the sky to his death, or did he eject? Had Saddam to scrawl his initials on the wall of an Iraqi prison? Did he endure another, more intricate tale that, even now, remains untold? The questions reached Capitol Hill, the Pentagon, the Oval Office itself.

Eventually, with another Bush in the White House and Saddam Hussein's Iraq still an enemy, the story transcended one pilot.

Speicher's case had become something more — a small part of the rationale for another war.

### Speicher 'left behind'

In late 2002 and early 2003, as the administration of George W. Bush made its case for invading Iraq, Speicher's name began echoing again in the halls of power. Had Saddam Hussein held him captive all these years? Saddam's government said no. But Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said the missing pilot — if he was alive — was one reason to invade. Bush himself raised Speicher's presumed capture to the United Nations.

These were only the latest in

years of efforts to determine the airman's fate. But the push didn't start immediately, friends of Speicher allege. In 1991, Hull says, Speicher "had been left behind."

On the day Speicher disappeared, the military told his wife that search-and-rescue teams were looking for him, his friends say. But that wasn't happening, Hull contends, bristling at the memory.

"Part of the deal is that if I go down, by God, it's your job to come get me," Hull says. He doesn't buy the Navy's belated argument that, without a distress call from Speicher, a rescue mission would have been futile. He asserts that the Navy knew — or should have — that Speicher's new radio didn't fit in its pouch and had probably been blown out of his survival vest when he ejected. Why, he wonders, didn't the military follow information from a fellow airman who had marked the coordinates of the fuel tank that investigators later linked to an Iraqi MIG? But as the 1991 Gulf War ended, ephemeral clues to Speicher's fate planted seeds that would sprout into a fragile culture of hope.

### Wreckage found

Tim Connolly was an army captain with the 405th Civil Affairs Battalion during Desert Storm. After the shooting stopped, he was summoned to talk to a man who claimed to be a Kuwaiti secret police colonel.

The Kuwaiti said he had been taken to a hospital in Nasiriyah four months earlier after being captured by the Iraqis. There, he said, an American pilot was in the next bed.

The colonel offered to look at photos of captured American pilots. But Connolly said he was told not to bother. With Speicher officially dead, all U.S. pilots were accounted for.

By 1994, Connolly, then a deputy assistant secretary of state, learned of a discovery in the Iraqi desert. A group of Qataris, ostensibly in Iraq on a falcon hunt, had discovered the wreckage of an F/A-18 American warplane. They gave U.S. authorities a metal plate stamped 163470 — the ID number on Speicher's Hornet.

A Defense Intelligence Agency satellite pinpointed the wreck site, its coordinates matching those where David Rensau, a Navy flyer, saw a brilliant flash of light in the sky the day Speicher disappeared.

Finally, something tangible to work with — if anyone could get to the place.

Connolly urged an undercover mission to the crash site before the Iraqi government could tamper with anything that might reveal Speicher's fate.

According to Connolly, a special operations team had a plan: Slip in by helicopter at night, re-



COURTESY BARRY HULL/AF

An F-18 Hornet flown by Navy pilot Barry Hull flies over the Red Sea in 1991. Capt. Michael Scott Speicher flew a similar fighter when he went down over Iraq in the first Gulf War. In the background is the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga.

cover evidence and be back in Saudi Arabia before dawn. On Dec. 23, 1994, Connolly made his case to Secretary of Defense William Perry.

At that meeting in Perry's Pentagon conference room was Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who confirmed Connolly's account. Shalikashvili told Perry: "I don't want to be the one to write letters home to the parents telling them that their son or daughter died looking for old bones."

A month later, Perry notified Connolly that he had decided, in-

stead, to ask the International Committee of the Red Cross to arrange with Baghdad for a U.S. team to visit the site.

After postponing the visit three times, the Iraqis escorted investigators to Speicher's plane, Connolly said. As he feared, the site had been picked over — either by looters or government agents.

Sen. Pat Roberts, a Republican from Kansas, pressed the issue. To Roberts, the evidence suggested Speicher had survived and might still be a prisoner of war.

Roberts held closed hearings; and on March 27, 2001, his com-

mittee released a report re-evaluating all the evidence collected over the years. "Speicher probably survived," the report said, and if he did, "he almost certainly was captured."

Weeks earlier, the military, in an extraordinary decision, changed Speicher's status from killed to missing — 10 years after he was pronounced dead. Evidence cited in the committee report contributed to the decision.

Then, in October 2002, the military changed Speicher's status again, this time to "missing-captured."

Five months later, the United States invaded Saddam fell. Speicher was not found.

### War footnote

Today, with more than 130,000 American forces occupying Iraq, Speicher is still nowhere to be found.

"A joint Iraq-U.S. committee has just finished its work on determining the fate of the pilot," said George Sada, spokesman for interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi. The result of the investigation will be announced by the Pentagon. He wouldn't elaborate.

There is talk now of making Speicher officially dead again. Hope has dimmed. People have moved on. He has become a footnote to war, a man whose story stopped in the middle — and whose ending may be forever beyond reach.

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# Iraq, neighboring nations to hold security meetings

BY SARAH EL DEEB  
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Iraq's neighbors on Wednesday answered the war-ravaged nation's plea for security assistance by agreeing to hold a high-level meeting to address the issue of cross-border infiltration.

Following a day of long-winded deliberations and minor disagreements, Arab foreign ministers welcomed the proposal of Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari to convene interim ministers and security officials to discuss how to "eliminate all terrorist and other armed groups present and emanating from Iraqi territory which constitute a danger to Iraq and neighboring states," the final statement of the meeting said.

The date of the meeting, to be hosted by Tehran, has not yet been decided. But delegates at the sixth regional meeting of Iraq's neigh-

bors said the meeting will address intelligence sharing, and possibly reinforcement of border patrols.

"All of them accepted to work with us on this issue," Zebari told The Associated Press, saying he was pleased with the meeting's outcome.

Wednesday's gathering was the first by the neighbors since sovereignty was returned to the Iraqis last month, a fact that likely translated into the delegates' readiness to act on their words of support.

"Just as neighboring countries affect the situation in Iraq, they are affected by it," said Egyptian

Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit, who read out the final communiqué.

Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal said the gathering approved all of Iraq's proposals.

"These countries want to be of help to Iraq in facing crises," he said. "All the proposals presented by Iraq to the meeting were welcome."

But reflecting the difficulties of reaching a consensus between Iraq's neighbors — Jordan, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait — and regional heavyweight Egypt, Zebari said there are still issues to be worked out with each country.

"It's up to us really to go back to them and approach them specifically on our requirements, and I think they will cooperate," he said.

The new Iraqi government has said restoring security is a top priority. Facing almost daily car bombings and firefights, Iraq accuses foreign Muslim infiltrators of being behind some of the deadliest attacks and says neighboring countries are either facilitating or turning a blind eye to cross-border infiltration.

Iraqi officials have blamed lax border security, pointing the finger at some neighboring countries for not preventing infiltrations. Zebari also on Tuesday accused some unnamed neighbors of "interfering" in the events in Iraq.

Zebari



THE DECATUR DAILY

Dr. John Wicks poses Saturday on his dock overlooking the Tennessee River at Lucy's Branch in Limestone County, Alabama. Wicks, 68, a psychiatrist, has been called out of military retirement by the Army to fill a shortage of mental-health experts needed to help soldiers cope with combat stress. He could be in Iraq as long as a year.

## 68-year-old doctor reactivated by Army to serve tour in Iraq

The Associated Press

DECATUR, Alabama — At 68, many people are slowing down. Not John Wicks: He's going to Iraq.

Wicks, a psychiatrist, has been called out of military retirement by the Army to fill a shortage of mental health experts needed to help soldiers cope with combat. He could be gone as long as a year.

The Army hasn't told Wicks what his exact assignment in Iraq is, or where in the country it will send him.

"I believe that the morale in general is not that good since the scandal at that prison," he said, referring to the allegations of abuse at Abu Ghraib prison. "When morale is high, you have fewer of these kinds of problems. And when morale is low, you have more."

Wicks, who is beginning a week of training in Texas, will have the rank of colonel. His previous military experience includes two years on active duty with the Marines and 18 years in the Alabama National Guard.

Wicks is a veteran of the U.S. war with Iraq in 1991, but his wife said theirs are different times.

"In Desert Storm, he was in the 10th Evacuation Hospital and they had drilled together for years," said Jan Wicks. "He felt good about going with this team that he knew. He doesn't have that support this time."

Wicks figures he will be among the oldest U.S. soldiers in the Iraq war. Marsha Rudd, a spokeswoman for the Army at the Pentagon, said she has no way of knowing if Wicks would be the oldest. She said she had heard of one other doctor who was 68 and went to Iraq.

Wicks' latest assignment started with a postcard the Army sent last fall that explained the need for specialists and asked if he felt he was fit to serve.

"I stuck the thing in my pocket and carried it around for several weeks agonizing on how I should respond," he told The Decatur Daily in a story Sunday. "The truth is I consider myself fit to serve, so that's how I marked it and sent it back."

"My wife said 'You'll never hear from them.' Well, it was no time at all till I heard from them," Wicks said.

Wicks said recruiters initially hinted he could go to Europe or a stateside base to relieve a younger psychiatrist who would go to Iraq. The Army even gave him three choices should that scenario play out, and Dr. Wicks chose Italy, Germany and England.

"Well, I now wonder if this was just to get me hooked. Because there's no way I'm going to Italy or any of these places," he said. "I'm going to Iraq."

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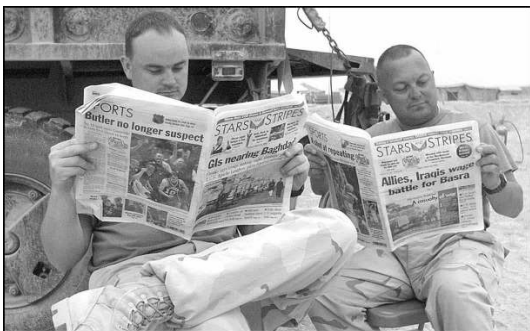
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# Elite forces taking higher-paying jobs

BY PAULINE JELINEK

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Just when the U.S. military needs them most, senior Green Berets, Navy SEALs and other elite forces are leaving for higher-paying jobs.

After getting years of training and experience in the military, they leave for other government jobs or for what defense officials said Tuesday has been an explosion in outside contractor work.

"What makes them so valuable to us is that they're highly marketable on the outside," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert V. Martens Jr., senior adviser at the U.S. Special Operations Command, which also oversees equipping and training elite Army Rangers and Air Force special operations commands.

Better salaries, retirement and educational opportunities are among incentives that might help stem the problem, defense officials say. They met with lawmakers to discuss ways to keep forces who have become so crucial to the war on terror.

A soldier, sailor or airman gets \$60,000 of service — a figure that includes housing allowance and some types of special duty pay. Troops who go to work for civilian contractors can make up to \$200,000 a year, one official has said.

The military command that oversees the covert forces "is the nation's single best weapon in the global war on terror," said Rep. Jim Saxton, R-N.J. Saxton opened Tuesday's session before his House Armed Services Committee subcommittee, saying he fears the military is losing such troops faster than they can be replaced for a counter-terror war that "has no foreseeable end point."

Officials from the command based in Tampa, Fla., didn't give specific numbers, but said the Army, Navy and Air Force are all seeing an increasing trend in which senior people are retiring at their 20-year mark, though they could remain on active duty for several more years.

Force Master Chief Cliff Braving, senior adviser at the Naval Special Warfare Command, said there has been a decline in people staying beyond the 10- to 14-year mark since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

"We are not looking to retain every single person to their 30-year tenure, but we are looking to retain a key experience base to lead our younger, less experienced troops out into the field into combat," Martens said.

It can take four years just to train a special operations soldier and another few years of field experience before he or she is top-notch.

Martens said troops are taking "the skills that we have trained them with" and starting second careers in the civilian sector or moving into other government agencies.

The special operations command has been working with the services and the office of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to identify incentives to keep senior people, Martens said. Worse retention problems can be averted, he said.

To some extent, the government has helped create the growing market outside its doors. Both the Defense Department and the CIA have hired private contractors to cover their own manpower shortages, especially in skills such as linguistics and prisoner interrogation.

The military has contracted out some chores — to save troops for soldiering duties. There are some 20,000 private security guards watching over U.S. officials, convoys and private workers in Iraq, some under government contract and some hired by private companies.

The CIA often uses independent contractors who are hired for short-term assignments. While they sometimes are recruited by and work through a private company, they can also be contracted directly by the agency.

Some of the private companies have been started and are led by retired generals, other military officers and former CIA employees. Overall spending on federal contracts increased about 42 percent from 2000 to 2003 — from \$205 billion to \$291 billion — according to a report issued in May by Rep. Henry Waxman of California, the senior Democrat on the House Government Reform Committee. The Army, Air Force and Navy accounted for 55 percent of all federal contract spending in 2003, he said.



The entrance to Vice President Dick Cheney's undisclosed location at the Raven Rock Mountain facility near Blue Ridge Summit, Pa., is pictured left. Known to government insiders as the "underground Pentagon," Site R is a complex of underground government buildings, shown below. A book, "A Pretext for War: 9/11, Iraq, and the Abuse of America's Intelligence Agencies" by James Bamford, is credited with spilling the beans about the supersecret hideaway.

KRT

## 'Secret Pentagon' disclosed

BY STEVE GOLDSTEIN

Knight Ridder Newspapers

SITE R, Pa. — Welcome to the undisclosed location.

Known familiarly to government insiders as the "underground Pentagon," this is where Vice President Cheney set up shop in the aftermath of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and where he sometimes is when his office is being secretive about Cheney's whereabouts.

The location is a highly secure complex of buildings inside Raven Rock Mountain near Blue Ridge Summit, Pa., close to the Maryland-Pennsylvania state line and about seven miles north of Camp David.

A recent book, "A Pretext for War: 9/11, Iraq, and the Abuse of America's Intelligence Agencies," by James Bamford, was credited with spilling the beans about this supposedly supersecret hideaway. Still, there is great sensitivity about the compound, as emphasized to an uninvited reporter the other day who was inadvertently allowed to briefly enter a guard-house.

"I work physical security at an undisclosed location in southern Pennsylvania, that's all I can say," said a well-armored fatigued-clad Army guard as he politely but firmly told the reporter that "everything you see is classified."

There is not all that much to be seen.



Site R — also known as Raven Rock or the Alternate Joint Communications Center — is a 53-year-old facility conceived at the start of the Cold War as an alternate command center in the event of nuclear war or an attack on Washington.

Sloping, round-humped Raven Rock Mountain sprouts a thicket of antennae, satellite dishes, and a microwave tower. From state Route 16, the main road that passes the mountain, two oversize metal doors in the hillside are visible through the heavy foliage giving it that Fortress of Solitude touch.

Information about Site R is available on the Internet, and its location — and use by Cheney — appeared in several news stories even before the publication of Bamford's book.

Cheney's disappearance to undisclosed locations — a frequent occurrence after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks — is believed to be unprecedented for the nation's highest elected officials.

As described by Bamford, the mountain also has a helipad. "But deep inside the hard greenstone granite mountain is a secret world of five buildings each three

stories tall, computer-filled caverns and a subterranean water reservoir," he writes. Within hours of the 9/11 attacks, Bamford said, five helicopters landed on the helipad, a convoy of SUVs with black-tinted windows arrived at the main entrance, and tan buses "began laboring up the steep, two-lane road to the heavily guarded, unmarked service entrance. Among those early to arrive was Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz."

The unmarked back entrance is a twisting lane off Harbaugh Valley Road. To the unknowing, the chain-link fence with a double-wide coil of razor wire might be a tip-off, as would the guard-house and a big red "warning" sign.

Confirmation came in the form of a station wagon with a U.S. Postal Service sticker; the carrier drove up the road, delivering mail to the half-dozen houses outside the gate. He acknowledged that this was one of the "four or five" entrances to Site R.

"We don't deliver their mail," he explained.

Asked whether Site R had its own service, he smiled and said: "I would say so."

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## Ramstein squadron wins award

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The 435th Services Squadron at Ramstein Air Base has been awarded the General Curtis E. LeMay Award as the best services squadron in the Air Force.

The LeMay award was created in 1965 to encourage and recognize excellence in Air Force services programs, according to a news release. It is present-

ed annually to the best large services squadron. "This is a tremendous win for our squadron, and a credit to the hard work of each member of the unit," said Col. Melissa Kallett, 435th Services Squadron commander. "Each day, we strive to provide the best quality of life to the Kaiserslautern Military Community, and this Air Force award recognizes our success in doing that."

From staff reports

## Wald explores EUCOM involvement in Africa

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Those involved in planning transformation of the U.S. military in Europe consistently point to Africa as a place that troops may see more of in coming decades.

But that's already the case for some personnel at the U.S. European Command headquarters.

Last week, Air Force Gen. Charles Wald, deputy commander of EUCOM, made his third visit this year to the continent, talking with various leaders in a five-day swing through six countries.

Included in this trip were meetings in Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, Gabon, Sao Tome and Ghana.

EUCOM has become increasingly involved in a variety of nation-building and military cooperation projects across Africa in recent years. Military medical personnel based in Europe, for instance, have participated in a handful of exercises. During such

visits, personnel treat ill local nationals, train with local doctors, fix facilities and donate supplies.

The most recent medical visit was in South Africa.

EUCOM has funded more than 150 humanitarian assistance projects in 60 countries so far this fiscal year.

Other units based in Europe and the States have spent months in a handful of countries, training various levels of local military or law enforcement agencies. A small group of Marines from Europe and the States are currently training anti-terrorism forces in Chad.

Past efforts have resulted in forces that are currently contributing to peacekeeping efforts in places such as Sierra Leone, the Congo and Lebanon.

EUCOM also runs a state partnership program, where individual states — through National Guard and Reserve forces as well as civilian employees — work with an individual African country.

Partnerships exist between New York and South Africa and Utah and Morocco. During Wald's trip, partnerships involving North Dakota and Ghana and Wyoming and Tunisia were approved.



Wald

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BY TRACY SWARTZ  
Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune

Cory Fladeboe was frustrated. An hour had passed since he and a friend had caught a walleye in Green Lake in Minnesota. So Fladeboe dunked his underwater camera to find out why the fish weren't biting.

Then he saw it: the propeller of a Cessna-style high-wing, single-engine plane, covered with silt, 35 feet below the surface.

Aware of the legend of Green Lake, the fishermen knew immediately that they had stumbled on the military plane that crashed into the west-central Minnesota lake 45 years ago.

"It looked pretty awesome," said Fladeboe, 25.

Fladeboe returned the next day with divers who say the plane fits the description of the Army Cessna L-19 Birddog that plunged into the 5,400-acre lake near Spicer on Oct. 15, 1958.

The body of the National Guard pilot, Capt. Richard Carey of Willmar, Minn., was found in the lake two weeks later.

Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Roe said he may find out if the numbers on the plane's tail match FAA and Army records.

"Until the military puts its stamp of approval on it, it's still in limbo," said Roe, adding that the plane eventually may be raised, preserved and placed in a museum.

## Fishermen's big catch

Pair find Army plane long lost in Minn. lake

The plane is in "excellent shape," said Michael Terhune, of St. Cloud, one of six divers who inspected it.

Terhune, 46, took 50 pictures of the submerged plane and plans to return soon to Green Lake with divers who will videotape the site.

One diver who plans to be there is Bill Matthies, owner of the Minnesota School of Diving in Brainerd. He searched for the plane five times in the 1960s to recover radio equipment for the Civil Air Patrol.

Matthies dived in the southwest quadrant of the lake, where the pilot's body was found. The plane discovered Saturday is in the lake's northwest corner.

Matthies, 68, abandoned his search in 1963, when a man told him the plane had been hauled from the lake.

"I was stunned when they said they found the plane," Matthies said. "I'd like to dive on it to make that closure."

Volunteers who monitor the water clarity of Green Lake consistently report they can see about 7 to 12 feet down, according to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Except near the shoreline, the lake is far deeper than that — 110 feet at its deepest point — so the lake bottom rarely is visible.

The reaction of Edna Carey, the pilot's widow, was "not so good." She said she thought it would never be found.

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# Report: U.S. Special Forces to be present at Summer Olympics

Stars and Stripes

Greece will allow 400 American Special Forces troops to be present at the Olympic Games under NATO auspices. The New York Times reported Wednesday.

The delicate arrangements, which officials say will not be formally acknowledged for fear of rolling anti-American sentiment, represent a significant departure from Olympic tradition and Greek law, which prohibits foreign personnel from carrying weapons within the country, the Times reported.

Until now, the only nation known to have armed security forces at the Olympics is Israel, whose agents have been armed largely without prior approval from host countries since 1972, when Black September, a Palestinian group, killed Israeli athletes and officials in Munich.

The agreements also allow 100 armed American agents to be used largely as bodyguards for American athletes and dignitaries. The FBI also is sending a hostage rescue team, as well as evidence-gathering and analysis personnel. They, too, will be armed, an American law enforcement official told the Times.

Despite the agreements, Greece and the United States are still in prickly negotiations over the rules that will govern the American security agents.

"I am certain we are going to be able to carry our guns," an American official said. "I'm not sure what we're going to own up to." The Greeks had made a number of other concessions that the Americans will not admit to, he said. "We must do this in a way that gives the Greeks their national pride."



MARNI MCENTEE/Stars and Stripes

**Lt. Col. Scott Fischer, commander of the 606th Air Control Squadron at Spangdahlem, Germany, and Master Sgt. Patrick Ross stand in front of a massive new lot for the squadron's vehicles. After years of being spread out in 19 buildings, the squadron will now call three new Spangdahlem buildings home.**

## Governors tell DOD call-up hurt states, paper reports

Stars and Stripes

With tens of thousands of their citizen soldiers now deployed, many of the nation's governors complained Sunday to senior Pentagon officials that they were facing severe manpower shortages in guarding prisoners, fighting wildfires, preparing for hurricanes and floods and policing the streets, according to a report in Tuesday's New York Times.

Concern has been rising for months, but it came into focus this weekend as they gathered for their annual conference in Seattle and compared the problems they faced from the National Guard's largest call-up since World War II.

On Sunday, the governors met with two Pentagon officials and voiced their concerns about the

impact both on the troops' families and on the states' ability to deal with disasters and crime, the Times reported.

Much of the concern has focused on wildfires, which have started to destroy forests in several Western states. The governor of Oregon, Ted Kulongoski, a Democrat, told the Times that the troop deployment had left his National Guard with half the usual number of firefighters because about 400 of them were overseas.

"We're playing a lot that a major fire does not break out," he told the Times.

More than 150,000 National Guard and Reserve troops are on active duty. Many of the Guard troops have received multiple extensions of their tours of duty since the United States went to war with Iraq last year.

## Air control squadron now on firm ground in Spangdahlem

BY MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

**SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany** — After more than a decade working out of 19 different facilities on two installations, the 606th Air Control Squadron can hang up its nomad shoes.

This month, the squadron's 270 members started moving into three new buildings, all located on Spangdahlem Air Base.

For a unit that has spent much of the past two years deployed to Turkey, Iraq and around Europe, a consolidated homeport is a welcome change.

"This is the first time we've had facilities that are focused on

mission specifications. They're the perfect place to train and operate from," said Lt. Col. Scott Fischer, 606th commander.

The squadron, one of two in Europe, deploys to remote locations to set up communications for the component command, and to control and identify aircraft.

The new facilities, which cost \$14.8 million, include a squadron operations building, an electronic maintenance building and a vehicle maintenance facility.

That building, scheduled for move-in next month, has a massive parking lot out front with state-of-the-art catch basins for errant fluids from the squad-

ron's 230 vehicles, said Master Sgt. Patrick Ross, squadron facilities manager.

Between 1992 and 1995, the unit was housed at Bitburg Air Base, but when the operational side of that base closed, the 606th spread out to wherever it could find space.

Its vehicle maintenance shop was 14 miles from Spangdahlem, in Oberweis, making for some tricky bad-weather driving on a windy road, Ross said.

Four of the buildings were on the base demolition list because they were so decrepit, two shops were portable buildings and two were in hardened aircraft shelters.

E-mail Marni McEntee at: mcentee@mail.strips.osd.mil

## Command changes

**WÜRZBURG, Germany** — Col. Russel Santala assumed command Wednesday of

the Würzburg-based 98th Area Support Group from Col. Dennis Dingle.

Santala has served in the Army since he was commissioned in 1980, including a tour from 1999-2001 as commander of the 14th Base Support Battalion in Hanau

followed by a stint as deputy director of the Europe Region of the Installation Management Agency. Most recently, he has been at the Army War College, where he earned a master's degree in strategic studies.

Dingle, who has commanded the 98th ASG since July 1st, is moving to the Army's G1 (personnel) section at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va., where he will serve as chief of the Wellness Branch.

The 98th ASG administers Army bases in northern Bavaria that are home to more than 45,000 soldiers, family members and civilians. Besides Würzburg, it includes bases in Ansbach, Bamberg, Giebelstadt, Katterbach, Kitzingen, Illesheim and Schweinfurt.

Other changes of command:

■ Lt. Col. Robert A. Smith took command of the Mannheim Health Clinic.

Smith replaced Col. Bruce Fried during a ceremony Friday. Smith served most recently as deputy hospital commander for outlying clinics at the Heidelberg Medical Department Activity.

Fried is leaving to assume a post as a command surgeon in Kuwait.

■ In Bamberg, Lt. Col. Shawn McGinley

took command of the 54th Engineer Battalion on July 14, replacing Lt. Col. Donald Jackson Jr.

McGinley's previous assignment was as V Corps' chief of plans in Baghdad. Jackson has moved to the chief of engineers staff office at the Pentagon.

■ Also in Bamberg, the 793rd Military Police Battalion welcomed Lt. Col. Dan McElroy as its new commander July 9.

He had been serving in the programs division of the Center for Army Leadership at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He takes over for Lt. Col. Mark Spindler, who will move to Washington as the colonel assignment officer for the Army's Human Resources Command.

## Legal education program

The U.S. Army Office of the Judge Advocate General is accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program.

Fifteen officers will be selected to attend law school at the government's expense, pending funding, in the fall of 2005.

The program is open to second lieutenants through captains who have at least two years, but not more than six years, of active federal service at the time they begin their legal training.

To verify eligibility, applicants should review Chapter 14 of Army Regulation 27-1 and register for the earliest available date to take the Law School Admission Test.

Applications will be accepted Aug. 1 to Nov. 1 and must be submitted through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager, with a copy furnished to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (FLEP), 1777 North Kent St., Rosslyn, VA 22099-2194.

For more information, contact the local staff judge advocate.

From staff reports

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# Refueling teams keep operations booming in Iraq

385th AEG unit staging missions with KC-135s out of Rhein-Main

BY LISA HORN  
Stars and Stripes

Air Force boom operators claim they're the only airmen flown to work every day. And Tuesday's refueling mission 20,000 feet above the Black Sea was no different for Master Sgts. Glenn Hancock and Sonny McCarra, boom operators for the 186th Air Refueling Squadron from Meridian, Miss.

"That's what their job is — to take me to work," McCarra joked, pointing to pilots Lt. Col. David "Doc" Glisson and 1st Lt. Rob Garrison.

The Air National Guard unit — part of the 385th Air Expeditionary Group — is staging its refueling missions from Rhein-Main Air Base until the end of the month while the runway at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, is closed for repairs.

Since August 2003, the 385th's crews have been gassing up C-17s, E-8Cs and C-5s around the clock as they fly to and from downrange, said Lt. Col. Twayne Mobley, commander of the 385th AEG.

"[The receivers] need the gas to be able to minimize their time on the ground at their stops," Mobley explained.

Glisson, Garrison, McCarra and Hancock took off Tuesday from Rhein-Main to meet up with a C-17 on its way to Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Capt. Lance Spear and Eduardo Emmanuelli, pilots of the C-17, had taken off from Rhein-Main shortly before the KC-135. Two and a half hours later, the aircraft rendezvoused over the Black Sea, just off the coast of Turkey.

During the mission, Glisson and Garrison stayed in constant contact with Spear and Emmanuelli to ensure both planes were able to meet at the predetermined refueling time.

Lying on his stomach in a small pit at the plane's tail, Hancock had his hands at the controls. As he lowered the boom to a point just above the C-17 cockpit, he filled the plane with 65,000 pounds of fuel, or roughly 9,700 gallons.

The 11 minutes of refueling went flawlessly. As the C-17 pulled away to continue its flight into Iraq, Hancock waved to the crewmembers and they disappeared into the horizon.

Flying directly into the setting sun, the KC-135 turned to head back to Germany. Glisson and Garrison attached Post-it notes to the windshield to deflect some of the sun's glare.

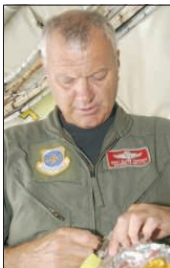
"It's a redneck sunscreen," Glisson joked in his Southern drawl.

Before Incirlik's repairs began, a similar refueling mission would



PHOTOS BY RAYMOND CONWAY/  
Stars and Stripes

Master Sgt. Sonny McCarra, above, and Master Sgt. Glenn Hancock, below, are boom operators with the 186th Air Refueling Wing from Meridian, Miss. They are temporarily flying refueling missions from Rhein-Main as Incirlik's runway is repaired.



take three hours, or about half the time it took on this day. In addition to adapting to the longer flight time, pilots have also had to adjust to maneuvering in and out of Frankfurt's busy airspace.

Glisson had to fight to break into the Frankfurt radio chatter as an air traffic controller provided instructions to the endless number of incoming and outgoing aircraft.

"The three big challenges [flying from Rhein-Main] are getting out of Frankfurt, the timing of the refueling itself and finally getting back to Rhein-Main and landing," Mobley said.

E-mail: Lisa.Horn@starsandstripes.osd.mil



PHOTOS BY LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

The 186th Air Refueling Wing, 153rd Air Refueling Squadron from Meridian, Miss., is staging refueling operations from Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, while work is done to the runway at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. Crews from the 385th Air Expeditionary Group have been gassing up C-17s, E-8Cs and C-5s Top: A C-17 approaches the back of a KC-135 refueler 20,000 feet above the Black Sea on Tuesday. The plane's boom is pictured in the foreground ready for refueling. Middle: The KC-135's boom makes contact with the C-17 as refueling begins. Bottom: The C-17 pulls away from the KC-135 after refueling is complete.



## IN THE WORLD

## Karadzic lauded as hero at festival

BY PREDRAG MILIC  
The Associated Press

SULA, Serbia-Montenegro — Fans of the world's most-wanted war crimes suspect, Radovan Karadzic, trekked by the thousands Wednesday to this remote mountain hamlet in his native Montenegro to launch a song festival in his honor.

On a stage decorated with Serb nationalist paraphernalia stood an empty chair bearing Karadzic's name.

"He is not a war criminal — he is my hero," said Ranko Andjusic, 44, a merchant selling Karadzic badges, books and videotapes in Sula, about 120 miles northwest of Podgorica, Montenegro's capital.

Karadzic, who tops the U.N. war crimes tribunal's most-wanted list, has been on the run since his indictment for genocide and crimes against humanity in 1995.

The former Bosnian Serb wartime leader is accused of orchestrating Europe's worst massacre of civilians since World War II — the July 1995 slaughter of up to 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys in the U.N.-protected enclave of Srebrenica.

Yet Karadzic — a self-styled poet — remains a hero among many nationalist Serbs and Montenegrins.

They believe he was unjustly accused merely because he devoted himself to Serb interests during the bloody 1992-95 Bosnian war by trying to create "Greater Serbia," a land that would comprise all Serbs living in the Balkans.

Late last month, chief U.N. prosecutor

Carla Del Ponte declared that Karadzic would be arrested within 24 hours. Instead, he remains at large despite a \$5 million reward promised by the United States for information leading to his capture and extradition to the tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands.

"Radovan, check your guards carefully, there are some Serbs who love money dearly," one musician sang at Wednesday's festival while playing a "gusle," a traditional single-string instrument used by generations of Serbs to circulate nationalist legends among simple folk.

Outside a Serbian Orthodox Church, merchants manning about 10 stalls peddled paraphernalia that included calendars with Karadzic's portrait and T-shirts reading "Karadzic, the Serbian Hero."

Karadzic is believed to be hiding in the mountains of eastern Bosnia, not far from Sula and somewhere near the town of Foca on the border with Serbia.

Those who claim to have seen him say he has shaved off his trademark bushy hair, has grown a large beard and dresses in black robes like a Serbian Orthodox priest.

Karadzic is said to often change his hideouts, including monasteries and refurbished mountain caves.

Karadzic, not surprisingly, was nowhere to be seen.



Radovan Karadzic

## U.S. hostage's head found in Saudi raid

BY ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI  
The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — The head of slain American hostage Paul M. Johnson Jr., who was kidnapped and decapitated by militants in Saudi Arabia last month, was found by security forces during a raid that targeted the hide-out of the Saudi al-Qaida chief. Two militants were killed, the Interior Ministry said Wednesday.

The Interior Ministry said the head was discovered in a freezer in a house, although Johnson's body was not found and a further search was being conducted.

The spokeswoman for the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Carol Kalin, said that Saudi authorities had informed the embassy of the discovery and that consular officials in Washington were in the process of notifying Johnson's family.

The Interior Ministry said the raid occurred in the King Fahd neighborhood of Riyadh. An earlier statement from an official at the ministry said authorities were holding the wife and three children of Saleh Mohammed al-Aooif, the man believed to be al-Qaida chief in Saudi Arabia, after the raid.

Johnson, a 49-year-old engineer who had worked in Saudi Arabia for more than a decade, was kidnapped June 12 by militants in Riyadh who followed through on a

threat to kill him if the kingdom did not release its al-Qaida prisoners. An al-Qaida group claiming responsibility posted an Internet message that showed grisly photographs of a beheaded body on June 17. Later, video of the beheading was posted.

Paul Johnson III, reached by telephone in Washington by The Associated Press, said he has received no official confirmation about the discovery. The younger Johnson, from Port St. John, Fla., had flown to Washington for a news conference with Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., at which they planned to press the Saudi Embassy for more information about the search for the body.

The Saudi Interior Ministry said the discovery was made after a search of one of three locations following the late Tuesday raid.

Weapons, including an anti-aircraft SAM-7 missile that appeared in previous militant videotapes, explosives, chemicals, video cameras and cash were among items seized.

One of the militants killed in the raid, identified by the Interior Ministry as Issa Saad Mohammed bin Oushan, is on the Saudi government's list of wanted militants. The statement declined to identify the wounded who are in custody.

Associated Press writer Mike Schneider in Orlan, Fla., contributed to this report.

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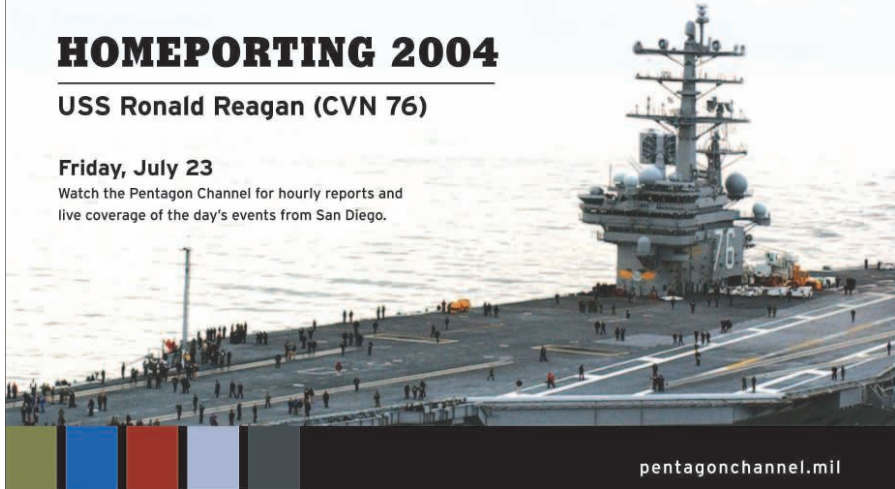
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## HOMEPORTING 2004

## USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76)

Friday, July 23

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German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder drinks a beer in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, on July 14. A new survey shows that last year the average German adult drank 255 pints of beer, 35 more than the average British adult. The survey also found 17 percent of German adults believe the point of drinking is to get drunk.

AP



## Survey: Germans surpass Brits when it comes to drinking beer

BY SUE LEEMAN  
The Associated Press

LONDON — Despite Britain's reputation as the home of beer-sozzled thugs, Germany is now top of the European league for beer consumption, while Spain has the continent's fastest growing beer market, according to a survey released Wednesday.

France, which still prefers wine, nevertheless has a taste for high-quality beers, while Italy's growing appreciation for ales of all kinds is expected to see it overtake Spain as the quickest growing market, said the survey by market researchers Mintel.

Mintel, which questioned 35,000 people, found that last year the average German adult drank 255 pints of beer, 35 more than the average British adult.

And 17 percent of German adults believe the point of drinking is to get drunk — the highest percentage in Europe — compared to just 8 percent of Britons, the study showed.

"The fact that German adults are seemingly more inclined than the British to drink to get drunk could help ease the British reputation for lavish drinking and an overindulgent pub-culture," said Michelle Strutton, senior consumer analyst at Mintel.

"It seems that drinking can be more of a low-key social event in Britain than some may have believed in the past. And although

the Germans may not go drinking as often as the British, when they do drink many do want to get drunk."

Last year, the Germans drank almost 10.5 billion U.S. quarts of beer, almost twice the 6.13 billion U.S. quarts drunk in Britain.

However, Britain has the highest percentage of beer drinkers in Europe, with 61 percent of adults — including 82 percent of men —

*The survey says  
17 percent of  
German adults  
believe the point  
of drinking is to  
get drunk.*

saying they drink it, according to the survey. In particular, lager has been successfully marketed to younger drinkers, it said.

Alcohol-related violence and disorder are a continuing concern in urban England, and Parliament voted last year to end the requirement that pubs shut by 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday and by 10:30 p.m. on Sundays. Supporters hope this will reduce binge drinking in the last minutes before closing time.

The researchers estimated that the beer market in France, Germany, Britain, Italy and Spain

was worth around \$70 billion in 2003, with Germany (40 percent) and Britain (39 percent) making up by far the largest shares of market value.

The researchers found that while alcohol consumption in Britain and Germany was falling, Italy was expected to become the fastest growing beer market in Europe, thanks to Italians' growing love for beer of all kinds.

"Drinking socially is a traditionally new phenomenon in Italy, where alcohol was relative to an accompaniment to meals," said Strutton. "Italy is now attempting to emulate the successful British market through encouraging people to drink in pubs and bars."

Italians consumed 1.8 billion U.S. quarts of beer in 2003, almost 9 percent more than in 1998.

Spain, currently the third largest consumer of beer, remains the fastest growing beer market. Consumption topped 3.1 billion U.S. quarts for the first time in 2001, having grown by 17 percent since 1998.

France's consumption of standard beers — currently 53 percent of total volumes — is declining and remains second to its love for wine. But sales of premium beers are holding their own, the survey found.

In the United States, beer consumption has grown steadily in recent years, but annual consumption per person in 2002 was still only around 87 U.S. quarts, according to industry figures.

from using the cards to buy alcohol or tobacco products, director Gabriele Weisbach said.

About 6 million visitors from all over the world are expected at the 171st Oktoberfest, where beer companies decided earlier this year to raise prices again after keeping them steady last year because of the slow economy.

This year, the most expensive one-liter mug of beer will cost 710 euro (\$8.70). A mug of the most common alternative drink, mineral water, is jumping 20 cents, to 555 euro (\$6.80).

## Blair announces shake-up of Britain's military forces

BY ED JOHNSON  
The Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair's government announced a major shake-up of its armed forces Wednesday, saying the round of cuts would save money and reshape the military for modern warfare.

The defense ministry said the changes would not affect the 9,000 British troops in Iraq, where Britain is the key U.S. ally.

Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon told the House of Commons that the army would lose four infantry battalions, seven Challenger 2 tank squadrons and six heavy artillery batteries over the next three years.

He said the Royal Navy would lose three type-42 destroyers and three type-23 frigates by March 2006, and the Royal Air Force would lose four squadrons by 2007.

Blair said no front-line troops would be cut.

"But what is important is to make sure that we use the money we are spending, record amounts of money on defense, in the most sensible way," Blair said.

By 2008, Royal Air Force personnel numbers will drop from 48,500 to 41,000, the Royal Navy will drop from 37,500 to 36,000 and army troop levels will drop from 108,000 to 102,000.

The shake-up was heralded in a strategy paper released by the government in December.

### Irish smoking-ban fine

DUBLIN, Ireland — The first pub owner prosecuted for breaking Ireland's ban on workplace smoking has been fined \$2,100 and warned not to break the law again.

Padraig Folan, owner of the Ti Hanrair pub in rural County Galway, could have faced a fine of up to \$3,700, and became the first nation in the world to ban tobacco use in enclosed workplaces, including its 10,000 pubs.

From wire reports

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## Oktoberfest goes cashless — but not for the beer

The Associated Press

MUNICH, Germany — The Oktoberfest, the world's largest beer-drinking festival, is going cashless — sort of.

Visitors to the Sept. 18-Oct. 3 Munich event will be able to buy prepaid cash cards for the first time, useable for the rides, cotton candy and grilled chicken that also are part of the event, though not for beer or cigarettes, organizers said Wednesday.

Festival organizers want to keep under-age pa-

## IN THE STATES

## Tax cuts may be extended

## White House opposed to negotiated deal

BY MARY DALRYMPLE

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House and Senate negotiators have agreed to extend for two more years President Bush's tax cuts for wage earners, parents and married couples, but lawmakers said Wednesday the deal did not have the support of the White House, which wanted a longer extension.

President Bush had asked Congress to act this week, before Republicans and Democrats leave for the presidential nominating conventions, and prevent the tax cuts from expiring at the end of the year.

Negotiators agreed to keep the three tax cuts in place through 2006. The emerging understanding was described by congressional aides speaking on condition of anonymity because negotiators had not yet announced an agreement.

The White House, however, had asked lawmakers to extend the tax cuts for five years. Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., the top Democrat on the Senate's tax writing committee, said Wednesday, "the White House is still opposed" to the two-year extension.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said negotiations remained "fluid." Frist said he'd like to see the tax cuts extended more than two years also, perhaps permanently.

"Is that asking too much at this juncture?" he said. "I don't think so, but I've got a lot of people to consider."

A group of the Senate's moderate Republicans and Democrats had signaled they wanted a short extension, as little as one year.

"Our members are hungry for something that will pass," said Stuart Roy, spokesman for House

Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas.

"They want to get something that prevents the tax increase."

"I think the two-year deal ought to fly," said Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., early Wednesday morning.

The tax cuts that would be extended increased the child tax credit to \$1,000, broadened the bottom 10 percent income tax bracket and lowered taxes for some married couples who pay higher taxes than they would if unmarried. They had been set to expire at the end of the year.

If the tax cuts were left to expire at the end of the year, Americans would see three tax increases — slightly higher income taxes, a \$300 reduction in the child tax credit and a reduction in tax benefits for married couples.

The framework also freezes the alternative minimum tax in place for a year.



House Speaker Rep. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., at podium, and other Republican leaders appear before reporters following a 9/11 Commission Briefing on Capitol Hill on Tuesday in Washington. With Hastert are, from left to right, Rep. Chris Cox, R-Calif.; House Majority Leader Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas; Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner, R-Wis.; and House Majority Whip Rep. Roy Blunt, R-Mo.

## Pledge to fight terror stressed on eve of 9/11 report release

BY HOPE YEN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Wednesday his administration is doing everything possible to prevent another terrorist attack as he braced for a report sharply critical of the government's intelligence-gathering before Sept. 11.

"I look forward to receiving the report," Bush said in the Rose Garden as he signed a bill at the White House to develop and stockpile vaccines and other antidotes to biological and chemical weapons. He made his remarks one day before the independent commission investigating the terrorist attacks releases a report detailing significant intelligence lapses and other governmental failures that allowed the terrorist hijackings to succeed.

"I will continue to work with the Congress and state and local governments to build on the homeland security improvements we have already made," Bush said. "Every American can be certain that their government will continue doing everything — to prevent a terrorist attack, and if the terrorists do strike, we will be better prepared to defend our people because of the good law I sign today."

Commission Chairman Thomas Kean, a former New Jersey governor, and Democratic Vice Chairman Lee Hamilton, a former Indiana congressman, were to brief President Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, White House Chief of Staff Andy Card and White

House counsel Alberto Gonzales on the panel's findings later Wednesday, presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said.

Congress isn't likely to undertake major revisions of the nation's intelligence operations this year, House Speaker Dennis Hastert said, casting doubt on the Sept. 11 commission's push for immediate changes once its final report is released.

The panel of five Republicans and five Democrats also will call for a new Cabinet-level intelligence chief and recommend combining the House and Senate intelligence committees and removing term limits from committee members, according to GOP House leaders informally briefed on the report Tuesday.

"It is time to put somebody in charge of the entire intelligence community, and give that person the budgetary and statutory authority to accomplish the job," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who has introduced a bill to create the position and has bipartisan support from five colleagues.

Yet some Republicans and Democrats are worried such a position would become too political by giving the normally apolitical intelligence chief a seat at the president's policy-making table.

Hastert, R-Ill., said any legislative action on the panel's recommendations probably won't occur until after the next president is inaugurated in January, given the limited time Congress has remaining this year.

Associated Press writer Katherine Pfleger Shriver contributed to this report.

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# Bush quiet about agenda for next 4 years

By DEB RIECHMANN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush's supporters shout, "Four more years!" but for now, it's unclear what a second term would bring.

The president has been offering broad-brush descriptions of what he'd do if he were re-elected — "win the war on terror," "extend peace and freedom throughout the world" and "continue to create jobs."

Yet, with just over 100 days until the election, Bush is keeping the details of his plans private.

Bush's advisers say that the run-up to next week's Democratic National Convention in Boston is hardly a good time to outline second-term goals. At a speech Wednesday night at the Washington Convention center, Bush is expected to take a stab at it.

"I think the president will begin to touch more on some of the broad themes of his vision for the next four years," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Wednesday. "It would be fair to say, I think, that we move beyond the Democratic convention and into our conven-

tion that we will be talking more about the president's agenda going forward."

There's nothing preventing Bush from spelling out his agenda now. President Clinton, when he ran for re-election eight years ago, offered many pre-convention initiatives, such as putting computers in every classroom and giving tax credits for the first two years of college.

But Bush's ability to put forth major, expensive initiatives is restrained by his high deficits and demands by his conservative base of supporters for smaller government.

The president is considering backing efforts to allow lower-priced drugs to be imported from Canada and elsewhere, two Bush advisers say. In May, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said he would advise Bush not to stand in the way of legislation to make it legal for drugs to be imported. That decision would play well in the northern borderland states of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan where busloads of people regularly thumb their noses at the law and travel north of the border to fill their prescriptions.

Bush also is expected to keep calling for medical liability reform, a position that allows him to take an election-year jab at Democratic vice presidential candidate John Edwards, a former trial lawyer.

One uncertainty at the health front, GOP pollster David Winston says, is whether older Americans during the next few months will embrace the new Medicare prescription card. "You still don't know what the reaction is going to be to the prescription card," he says. "That impacts a very important target group — women 60-plus."

In 2000, Bush campaigned aggressively for an overhaul of Social Security, and since then, he's said he wants to give Americans the ability to invest part of their Social Security contributions in personal savings accounts. Social Security reform is still on Bush's "list of goals," though it will not be a dominant issue, one adviser said.

Likewise, Bush does not mention two initiatives he announced with much fanfare months ago: giving temporary legal status to illegal immigrants or sending astronauts back to the moon by 2020 and ultimately on to Mars.



Vice President Dick Cheney listens as President Bush speaks Wednesday at the White House. The administration has offered few details about how Bush plans to accomplish his goals if re-elected.

## Bush calls Berger probe 'a very serious matter'

By CURT ANDERSON  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former national security adviser Sandy Berger says he regrets the way he handled classified terrorism documents, calling the whole thing "an honest mistake."

Republicans say the matter raises questions about whether the former Clinton administration official sought to hide embarrassing materials.

"It's a very serious matter that will be investigated by the Justice Department," President Bush said. He declined to say when he was told about the investigation or to address Democratic suggestions that the disclosure of the probe was politically motivated.

"What information could be so embarrassing that a man with decades of experience in handling classified documents would risk being caught pilfering our nation's most sensitive secrets?" House Speaker Dennis Hastert,

R-Ill., said. "Mr. Berger has a lot of explaining to do."

The Justice Department is investigating whether Berger committed a crime by removing from the National Archives copies of documents about the government's anti-terror efforts and notes that he took on those documents. Berger was reviewing the materials to help determine which Clinton administration documents to provide to the independent commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

Bush's spokesman, Scott McClellan, disclosed Wednesday that the Justice Department notified the office of White House legal counsel Alberto Gonzales about the probe before news of it leaked to the media Monday.

"My understanding is that this investigation has been going on for several months and that some officials in our counsel's office were contacted as part of the investigation," McClellan told reporters. "The counsel's office is



Sandy Berger

the one that is coordinating with the Sept. 11 commission the production of documents and since this relates to some documents, the counsel's office was contacted as part of that investigation."

Berger had been an informal adviser to John Kerry's presidential campaign, but he quit Tuesday to limit the political fallout. Berger told reporters he was not guilty of criminal wrongdoing.

## N.Y. subway backpack explosion

NEW YORK — Police are investigating whether a backpack that exploded in a Times Square subway station Monday was planted by the officer who reported it, high-ranking police sources said.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Joseph Rodriguez, 27, has had psychological problems that appeared to stem from the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. He helped with the rescue efforts.

Rodriguez was approved for a disability pension last week, and Tuesday, the day after the explosion, was to have been his last day on the job, the sources said.

## Critics denounce circus lion death

LOS ANGELES — The death of a circus lion during a train trip from Arizona to California has drawn criticism from an animal advocacy group and the scrutiny of a federal agency.

The lion, named Clyde, was found dead July 12 when the train in which he was traveling stopped outside Fresno, Calif.

The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said a whistleblower reported that Clyde died in a poorly ventilated boxcar as the train traveled through the Mojave Desert. Shannon Pak, a spokeswoman for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, said PETA's allegations on Tuesday.

From The Associated Press

## Investigators: More killed below impact than believed on 9/11

By DEVLIN BARRETT  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal investigators analyzing evacuation patterns at the World Trade Center estimate more people than previously thought died below the areas hit by the hijacked planes.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology is conducting an extensive review of the collapse of the towers. Between 567 and 610 people died below the impact floors, "somewhat higher than previously thought," lead investigator Shyam Sunder said Tuesday.

The NIST has tried to determine where people died to better understand evacuation responses and craft recommendations that would make skyscrapers safer.

The agency's interim figures estimate 1,466 building occupants died in World Trade Center Tower 1, the vast majority — 1,356 people — at or above the impact site. In Tower 2, the second to be struck, 624 office workers were killed, and only six of those were below the impact site. More than 400 emergency responders were killed in the twin towers below the impact floors.

NIST also has determined 30 other people were killed in the towers below the impact sites, without being able to say which building they were in.

Sunder said between 1,974 and 2,017 people died at or above the areas of impact, a figure slightly

below previous estimates. He said the shift may be explained by the lowering death toll since the first calculations were made in 2002. NIST said it still had no information on where 17 people died.

Altogether, 2,749 people died at the World Trade Center, including those on the hijacked planes, the agency has found.

The main source of information for the analysis came from 300 in-person interviews conducted by the NIST and about 800 phone interviews.

In many cases, the agency was able to use employees' building identification information to determine on which floors they worked. That information was cross-checked against survivor accounts of their evacuations.

The investigators also tallied information gleaned from press accounts and a Web site dedicated to victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The agency had previously estimated that between 16,200 and 18,600 people were in the buildings.

It also determined 18 bystanders or occupants of nearby buildings were killed.

The institute's investigation began two years ago in an effort to determine why the towers collapsed and use those lessons to recommend improvements in building codes, evacuation procedures and other standards. Its final report is due in December.



# Microsoft plans to pay back shareholders

BY ALLISON LINN  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE—Bowling to pressure after years of enormous profits but a stagnating stock price, Microsoft Corp. is dipping into its substantial cash reserves with plans to return as much as \$75 billion to shareholders through a combination of dividends and stock buybacks.

The software giant has amassed billions in recent years, most notably from sales of its two cash cows: the dominant Windows operating system and popu-

lar office software. But its stock price has been little changed for almost three years. That has increased pressure on the company to do something with a cash pile that now totals at least \$56 billion — and is expected to continue to grow steadily.

Now that many of its legal troubles appear to have been resolved, the company said it finally felt free to spend part of its stockpile.

The Redmond-based company plans to pay a one-time dividend of \$3 per share — at a cost of \$32 billion — and will double its annu-

al dividend to 32 cents per share. Microsoft, which has about 10.7 billion shares outstanding, began paying a dividend in March 2003.

The company also said it plans to buy back as much as \$30 billion of the company's stock over the next four years.

The payout suggests Microsoft has, at least for now, put off plans to use the money to make a major acquisition to punch up growth. Microsoft disclosed last month that it had initiated merger talks with German software maker SAP, but called off the potentially costly deal after deciding it would be too complex.

The Microsoft plan dwarfs \$1.9 billion in dividends that Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. paid its shareholders in April, including \$1.4 billion to MGM's largest shareholder, billionaire Kirk Kerkorian.

Chairman Bill Gates said his share of the one-time payout, which amounts to about \$3 billion, will be pledged to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the billionaire's philanthropic organization.

The monumental payout will give shareholders a quick gain and the buyback may help lift Microsoft's languishing share price.

Microsoft stock, one of the nation's most widely held issues, has hovered between \$23 and \$30 since April 2002, despite steady profits.

The dividend and buyback plans were announced after the close of markets Tuesday. Shares of Microsoft rose about 3 percent, or 77 cents, to \$29.09 in early trading Wednesday on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Microsoft withdrew an employee stock option plan in September because of stagnant share prices and instead began giving employees smaller amounts of stock outright.

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FAIRBANKS/ALASKA/DAILY NEWS-MINER/AP

Alaska State Forestry technician II Kris Brandenburg, right, points out cabin locations to Umatilla National Forest Initial Attack squad bosses, from left, Andy Garza, Mike Gatens, Chris Pahl and crew boss Brian Spivey on Tuesday near 32 Mile Elliot Highway in Alaska.

## Fires mild out West but wild in Alaska

BY ANGIE WAGNER  
The Associated Press

Months before wildfires sweep across the West each year, Lois Gruver packs a suitcase with pictures of her four children and her favorite paintings. She's always ready to sling it into her trunk if flames head toward her home in Bend, Ore.

"One lightning strike ... You just better be ready and hope it never comes," said Gruver, 69, whose neighborhood is surrounded by juniper trees.

The fire season has been a mild one so far for people in the West. Fires in California, Arizona and Nevada have made headlines, but the 1 million acres that have burned in the Lower 48 states is about half the national average this late in the summer.

But national statistics show this has been one of the worst fire seasons in years. The reason, in a word, is Alaska.

The state is having one of its worst seasons in decades, with 3.5 million acres of remote and unpopulated forest already charred. That is the bulk of the 4.4 million acres of forest that have burned this year, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

But the balance is likely to shift soon, forecasters warn.

"Right now, probably the Lower 48 has been a little slower than normal in terms of not as many fires, not as many acres, as we normally have," said Rick Ochoa, national fire weather pro-

gram manager for the Bureau of Land Management in Boise, Idaho.

Alaska wildfires have a quirky nature all their own.

Light rain showers have little effect on hot fires in Alaska, because the fast-burning black spruce of its forests tend to be near quick-drying moss and lichen.

Alaska also has long summer days — 21 hours in parts of the Interior — meaning less overnight humidity to calm fires. And fire managers say it's sometimes difficult to find fires.

"One of the biggest challenges here is trying to detect fires in such a large expanse," said Allen Christman of Bonners Ferry, Idaho, and incident commander of the 200,000-acre Wolf Creek fire northeast of Fairbanks.

Because of Alaska's vast land, limited highways and small population, fires are usually not allowed to burn unless they threaten people or structures. That means more land will burn than in the more populated West.

Currently, Alaska has about 107 fires burning, but only 20 are being fought.

Officials note Alaska is near the usual end of its season, which they hope will come on schedule.

Fire season shifts from different parts of the West throughout the summer and usually doesn't begin in the Pacific Northwest and the northern Rockies until about now and runs through mid-September.

Wildfires in southern California usually pick up around late summer.

## A cheesy birthday

**TN** MARYVILLE — Michael P. Monn's birthday celebration went a little awry when he was arrested while drunk, nude and covered with nacho cheese.

Monn was detained early Sunday as he ran toward a Jeep in the parking lot outside a swimming pool snack bar. According to police, he was stark naked and was carrying a box of snacks and a container of nacho cheese.

Monn was charged with burglary, theft of less than \$500, vandalism less than \$500 and public intoxication and was cited for indecent exposure. He was held at the Mount County Jail in lieu of a \$9,300 bond.

It was Monn's 23rd birthday.

## Fake poster, real suit

**ME** BANGOR — A fake wanted poster the owner of an Etna variety store displayed on his cash register as a practical joke has triggered a defamation lawsuit.

Brad Graves sued Ronald Hicks last week in Penobscot County Superior Court, claiming that Hicks damaged his reputation by displaying the poster that labeled him a "terrorist."

Hicks' lawyer characterized the lawsuit as "ridiculous," saying the poster was created as a harmless joke by his client and was aimed at a frequent customer whom he regarded as a friend.

The poster included a photograph of Graves with the words "Mohammed Abdul Graves, suspected leader of the outlaw organization Extreme Activist Terrorism Militia of Etna" or "EATIME" under his picture, according to court documents.

## And a cherry on top

**MI** JACKSON — A robbery attempt at an ice cream store resulted in a not-so-sweet ending for a would-be thief who authorities say knocked over a large container of strawberry syrup and dropped his wallet.

According to police, the 24-year-old man apparently slipped in the goo during the break-in early Monday.

A deputy responding to an alarm after midnight at TJ's Dairy Freeze in Jackson, about 90 miles west of Detroit, located the wallet and found a container of syrup spilled on the floor. It was unclear if anything was taken.

The deputy used the identification card in the wallet to find and arrest the suspect on a charge of breaking and entering.

## Constable killed

**NY** OAK BEACH — A Babylon Bay Town constable was shot to death by a man he tried to pull over for drunken driving, police said. The gunman was later shot to death by police responding to the scene.

Richard Brooks, 44, was a retired New York City police officer who worked one day a week as a constable for the town. He was patrolling the quiet seaside community of Oak Beach at about 3 p.m. Friday when he tried to pull over James Wilson on the Robert Moses Causeway, Suffolk County police said.

Wilson, 42, sped to his home with Brooks in pursuit, police



said. He went inside his house, grabbed a shotgun, and fired at Brooks from a second-story window, said Suffolk County Police Lt. Jack Fitzpatrick.

Wilson then drove his car over Brooks, who had been shot at least once in the chest and died at the scene, police said.

Officers arrived at the scene and confronted Wilson in his car nearby. Police said they shot him when he flashed his shotgun. Wilson died at the hospital.

## Massive Big Mac attack

**WI** FOND DU LAC — Chalk up another meaty milestone for Don Gorske.

The Fond du Lac man downed his 20,000th Big Mac sandwich Monday, while surrounded by spectators at a local McDonald's restaurant.

He already had made the "Guinness World Records" book for eating a record number of Big Macs before he hit number 19,000 in March 2003.

He has been eating the fast food sandwiches since 1972 at a rate of at least one a day, and said he has eaten a Big Mac from every state in the union.

Still, the 6-foot Gorske has maintained his weight at about 170 pounds.

## No Pepsi dumping

**NY** SYRACUSE — The Pepsi Bottling Group will pay nearly \$3 million in fines and cleanup costs for illegally dumping industrial waste into a creek that empties into Onondaga Lake, state and local officials said last week.

Under the settlement, the com-

pany will pay \$2.78 million to help pay for Onondaga Lake reclamation projects, said Assistant Onondaga County District Attorney Paul Berry.

The company also will pay \$200,000 in fines for its illegal dumping activities in suburban Syracuse, as well as to settle charges in Utica and Chesterfield, said state Attorney General Eliot Spitzer.

According to Berry, Pepsi admitted that it disposed of soft drink syrup mix and other waste soda products into Ley Creek, a tributary of Onondaga Lake, without a permit. The syrup has a high sugar content and the discarded waste has the potential to remove and dissolve oxygen from the water, affecting fish and plant life, said Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Erin Crotty.

## Shelter replaces tavern

**NE** OMAHA — A local homeless shelter has purchased a neighboring bar and plans to build something oddly appropriate where the old tavern now stands: a drug and alcohol treatment center.

South Omaha's Stephen Center shelter bought the South Seven bar this month, said Del Bomberger, executive director of the shelter.

He said the bar will be knocked down to make room for a new residential treatment center.

Bomberger said the bar had long been a problem for the shelter, because many of the shelter's patrons had drinking and drug problems and were able to get alcohol and drugs in and around the tavern.

## Boy dies in hot SUV

**FL** BOCA RATON — A 3-year-old boy died when his dentist father left him inside a sport utility vehicle for three hours, officials said.

Dr. Dennis F. Sierra took his son Andres to work with him last Thursday and left the boy in the car, intending to be in the office for only a short time, Palm Beach County sheriff's spokeswoman Diane Carhart said.

A relative called Sierra about three hours later to ask about the boy, and the father and office employees rushed to the car to find Andres was not breathing.

The boy died about an hour later at West Boca Medical Center. It was not immediately known if any charges would be filed.

Sierra was not arrested, said his lawyer, Michael Salnick.

## Can't bear the fans

**WI** STEVENS POINT — When a black bear wandered into the city and climbed up a tree, residents here didn't panic or rush away. In fact, they did the opposite.

A crowd of screaming well-wishers gathered underneath the tree, causing the panicked animal to climb farther up and making the limbs wobble.

After waiting 16 hours, a Wildlife Services employee fired two tranquilizers into the 140-pound animal Saturday evening.

Authorities then dragged the bear onto a forklift and put it into a cage, to the cheers of about 50 onlookers.



**On the ceiling** Visitors take photographs of and look at reflections in the "Cloud Gate" sculpture at Millennium Park in Chicago.



**Tangled web** The work of a spider is highlighted by the morning sun as it shines through drops of dew on a farm fence near Glencoe, Ky.



**Seriously hungry** Peter Jay sinks his teeth into an original Menches Brothers hamburger at the 19th annual Burger Fest 2004 in Hamburg, N.Y.



**Balloons abound** Air balloons sail over Angel Fire, N.M., during the Wings Over Angel Fire Balloon and Air show.



## After the storm

A rainbow can be seen behind the Stjordanen Lutheran Church in Reynolds, N.D., in rural Trail County after storms pounded the area.



## Fields of gold

The immature heads of wheat sway in the gentle breeze as the young field of small grain crop grows next to an old barn south of Huff, N.D.



## Out for a ride

Riders taking part in the Sixth annual Cycling the Erie Canal hike tour head down a hill along the Erie Canal in Niskayuna, N.Y.



## Just playing around

Themis Kakias, left, and George Karras, of the Greek Tycoons, joke around during a performance as they go to sit on the lap of Dessine Friconi during the 37th annual Middletown Greek Festival at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Middletown, Ohio.

## Child falls nine stories

**NY** POUGHKEEPSIE — A 14-year-old boy died July 14, two days after falling 81 feet from a window.

Police believe the boy's mother was asleep when he fell from the ninth story of a Poughkeepsie apartment building while playing with his siblings. Police believe the death was accidental, but they are continuing to investigate. They did not release the name of the child.

Some tenants and city leaders are calling for mandatory window guards.

## No idle trucks

**SC** COLUMBIA — In an effort to reduce air pollution from idling diesel trucks, South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia plan to offer 150 spaces at Interstate 85 truck stops where truckers can cut their engines and plug in.

The spaces will have a large hose that truckers can connect to their windows. Inside the hose is a system with a heating and air conditioning unit, several outlets and Internet access through a touch-screen computer.

Truckers pay a fee — about \$1.25 an hour — for the services. But they can sleep in their trucks without running the engines.

## False allegations

**TX** SAN ANTONIO — A 17-year-old girl has admitted she told a cellmate that she made up allegations that she had sex with a judge for money as a minor.

Her admission could bring Social Security judge Forrest Elmo Stewart's house arrest to an end.

The girl's testimony came last week during an examining trial. Stewart, 77, has been charged with indecency with a child by sexual contact. He was arrested in April.

The girl has been in jail for two months on burglary charges.

## Two dogs euthanized

**ME** AUGUSTA — Two look-alike wolf-hybrid dogs from the same litter, one of which bit a woman in the leg, have been euthanized following a two-hour hearing in District Court.

The 18-month-old dogs, a male and female, had been placed in quarantine last week after one of them bit Laura Charest of Sidney, who was unable to determine which was the attacker.

Judge Michael Westcott last week ordered both dogs, Polar Bear and Foxy Lady, put down and tested for rabies.

The lawyer representing the dogs' owner, Helen Minoty, sought to have them spared, saying it would be wrong to kill both animals when only one bit Charest.

## Juveniles stealing cars

**DC** WASHINGTON — Facing a growing outcry from the public to put a stop to juvenile car thefts, officials in the nation's capital are vowing to try to solve the problem.

"They are not 'kiddie' car thieves out for a night of fun. These are acts of reckless violence," Mayor Anthony A. Williams said at

a public forum Monday in one of the hardest hit neighborhoods.

In the past three weeks, three people have been killed in collisions involving vehicles allegedly stolen by minors.

## Left in the dark

**AZ** PHOENIX — A fire at an electrical substation early Tuesday left about 50,000 northwest Phoenix homes and businesses without power. It was the second substation fire in the area in two weeks.

All but 13,000 homes and businesses had power restored within two hours of the 2:30 a.m. fire, said Damon Gross, spokesman for Arizona Public Service Co. The fire damaged one of three transformers at a substation, he said.

The cause of the fire was under investigation, Gross said.

## Mugged and dragged

**FL** JACKSONVILLE — A woman was severely beaten by two men who grabbed her purse and then dragged her 60 feet down a street in a sport utility vehicle before running her over, officials said.

The woman remained in critical condition.

Kevin Jerome Miller, 27, turned himself in hours after the attack. He was charged with aggravated battery. Police have not arrested the second man.

## Theft of JFK items

**NY** NEW YORK — A warehouse worker charged with stealing personal items that belonged to the late John F. Kennedy Jr. reportedly pleaded guilty to misdemeanor larceny and received a conditional discharge.

The worker, Patrick Gallagher, entered the plea in Manhattan Criminal court and was fined \$1,000. The New York Times and the New York Post reported.

Prosecutors said Gallagher, a worker for Sotheby's, stole nearly three dozen items, including a 1963 Father's Day card to President Kennedy from his son.

He allegedly sold the stolen belongings for \$5,000 to pay a debt to a bookie.

## Bias settlement checks

**TX** TULIA — Tulia residents wrongly charged and jailed in falsified drug cases five years ago began getting checks from a \$6 million settlement stemming from a lawsuit claiming the arrests were racially motivated.

Retired Judge Ron Chapman, who decided how the settlement would be divided among the 45 defendants, said distribution of the checks began last week. The defendants will share \$4 million, while some of their attorneys will receive \$2 million.

Civil rights groups claimed the drug cases were racially motivated because 39 of the 46 arrested or charged in the 18-month drug operation were black. Tom Coleman, the former undercover agent who made the arrests, is white.

Gov. Rick Perry granted pardons last year to 35 defendants in Tulia, a small farming and ranching community of about 1,000 between Amarillo and Lubbock.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

YOUR MONEY

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# Qualcomm tests phones in flight

**BY DAVID KOENIG**  
*The Associated Press*

FORT WORTH, Texas — In one of the first legal in-flight cell phone calls, Qualcomm Inc. chief executive Irwin Jacobs sat in the front row of coach and chatted with a telecom lobbyist from 25,000 feet.

Jacobs and a group of reporters were aboard an American Airlines jetliner last Thursday that flew out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport for a demonstration of Qualcomm's in-flight cellular technology. *Sound*

The flight required special clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration and Federal Communications Commission. The FAA and the airlines ban in-flight cell calls for fear the signals could interfere with navigational equipment. The FCC is worried about them disrupting terrestrial cellular networks.

Reporters were given phones with code division multiple access, or CDMA technology, and a

Qualcomm commercialized CDMA technology, a standard used by many top wireless carriers.

Connections from the plane were generally good, although some calls were dropped. Sound quality was about the same as a cell call on the ground, other than the loud background noise on the MD-80 jetliner.

Clearly, this was early-stage airborne call task.

There was a delay of about one second in voice communications, like that encountered when using a satellite phone, which interfered with natural conversation. The delay was caused by technology that digitally transmits voice in data packets from the airplane to the ground.

Also, the caller could not hear the phone ringing on the other end, which caused at least one reporter to hang up while the person on the other end was shouting into the receiver.

Qualcomm Inc. chief executive Irwin Jacobs, right, talks on a cell phone from an American Airlines Super 80 jetliner last Thursday as the airplane flies over western Texas. Jacobs, along with other officials from American Airlines and Qualcomm Inc., were aboard the jetliner with a group of reporters and photographers for a demonstration of cellular technology at 25,000 feet.

technology official, said he called his wife, secretary and friends in Paris and Madrid, Spain. He said domestic connections were better than international.

Jacobs said San Diego-based Qualcomm would spend the next

He said improvements in the technology would include shortening the one-second delay. Eventually, air travelers should be able to make calls and download movies with wireless devices aboard jetliners, he said.

American has ripped seatback phones out of most of its planes

"They waited to get on the ground to make calls with their cell phones."

cell phones. The seatback phones use FAA-approved technology that doesn't interfere with jet navigation systems. And they were expensive. Airlines generally charge about \$4 a minute plus a \$4 access charge.

Even before last Thursday it was widely known that cell phones will sometimes work on jetliners. On Sept. 11, 2001, several passengers aboard hijacked airplanes called loved ones.

## TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES								
52-week		Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-week
High	Low							
10,253.87	8,311.14	8,311.14	Dow Jones Industrial	10,103.87	+65.31	+0.65	+1.21	+2.45
3,212.45	2,526.48		Dow Jones Transportation	3,154.75	+49.62	+1.60	+4.91	+2.48
2,824.24	2,296.38		Dow Jones Utilities	2,845.1	+7.06	+0.25	+3.60	+1.59
6,796.17	5,677.77	5,677.77	Dow Composite	6,053.7	+58.37	+0.97	+3.41	+2.45
1,728.81	938.73	938.73	Amex Index	1,261.48	-1.97	-0.16	+7.49	+8.37
2,553.83	1,640.88		Nasdaq Composite	1,517.07	+33.24	+2.16	+4.31	+12.37
163.23	96.94	96.94	S&P 500	1,108.67	+7.77	+0.70	+2.29	+12.20
618.46	477.91	477.91	S&P MidCap	591.12	+6.90	+1.18	+2.66	+10.99
1,031.19	789.19	789.19	S&P SmallCap	789.19	+9.66	+1.24	+2.66	+10.99
11,371.14	9,258.56		DJ Wilshire 5000	10,813.87	+88.09	+0.82	+2.17	+13.78

[illegible]

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS		KEY MUTUAL FUNDS							
Name	Div P/E	Last	Chg	YTD %	Name	NAV	Chg	YTD %	
Analtek Technologies	—	15	63.28	+28	+9.6	Fidelity Investor: Greater	35.59	+22	+4.4
Avco Corp.	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Bombardier Corp.	22	28	48.76	+30	+5.7	Amr Century Inv: Ultra	26.54	+27	+7.1
Boeing Co.	20	55	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Electronic Systems & Spces	37	25	50.55	+124	+14.1	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
General Electric	16	32	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
General Motors	12	32	31.21	+51	+7.2	Franklin/Temp Fld: S&P500	29.83	+42	+1.3
IBM Corp.	15	32	1.00	+1	+0.4	Amr Century Inv: Ultra	26.54	+27	+7.1
Martin Marietta	31	13	47.60	+26	+5.7	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Northrop Corp.	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Amr Century Inv: Ultra	26.54	+27	+7.1
Rockwell International	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Lockheed Martin	18	28	50.10	+18	+5.7	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Raytheon Co.	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Northrop Grumman	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
Rockwell International	17	25	1.00	+1	+0.4	Fidelity Investor: M&A	25.40	+12	+4.8
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## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		\$1.261
Euro		
British pound		\$1.89
Japanese yen		106.00
S. Korean won		1,130.00
Commercial rates		
Bahrain (Dinar)		0.377
British pound		\$1.852
Canada (Dollar)		1.3179
Denmark (Krone)		0.6469
Hong Kong (Dollar)		6.19
Euro		1.2295
Hong Kong (Dollar)		7.7996
Hungary (Forint)		202.16
Iceland (Krona)		71.12
Israel (Shekel)		4.4903
Japan (Yen)		106.00
Kuwait (Dinar)		0.2947
Norway (Krone)		6.3135
Philippines (Peso)		25.85
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)		3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)		1.3678
S. Korea (Won)		1,158.90
Switzerland (Franc)		1.2474
Taiwan (Dollar)		1.3678
Turkey (Lira)		1,449.25

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military bank facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates see Table 1.)

**Cents and Sensibility**  
Money tip of the day  
Agencies to protect you

**Newsway** — The federal agency that polices interstate household moves has two investigators to look into unscrupulous movers and three "specialists" to coordinate consumer complaint-handling.

No wonder experts emphasize the need for consumers to do what they can to protect themselves.

David Longo, a spokesman for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, said the agency has been authorized to hire 10 new investigators starting in early 2004. That agency, a unit of the U.S. Department of Transportation, "believes the additional investigators will be able to increase enforcement activity," Longo wrote in an e-mail response to a Newsday query.

For more information, go to [www.fcmss.gov](http://www.fcmss.gov) or [www.factsits/moving.htm](http://www.factsits/moving.htm).

The American Moving and Storage Association, a trade group, also has a Web site that includes advice for consumers.

## PRECIOUS METALS

	<b>London close</b>	
Gold		\$394.55
Silver		\$6.34

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4 1/2%
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Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.25
3-month bill	1.330
30-year bond	5.17

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com



# Stripes Travel

## Standing tall

Two towns offer best of classic Dutch windmills

BY LORI ANN MARTIN  
*Stripes Travel reader*

Certain countries are associated with certain images, and the Netherlands invariably brings to mind windmills.

But today only about 1,000 of the thousands of windmills that used to adorn the country remain, so in some cases it might take some effort to find one.

Two of the best places to see windmills, and even climb inside one, are Zaanse Schans, north of Amsterdam, and Kinderdijk, 60 miles in the opposite direction. Both sites can be quick stops or delightful places to linger.

Zaanse Schans is a village developed to preserve the 16th- and 17th-century heritage of the Zaanstreek region. Most of its buildings were relocated there in the 1960s and '70s when urban expansion at their original sites threatened to destroy them. The houses are lived in and the windmills still turn with the breeze.

Although only eight remain in the immediate area, more than 1,000 industrial windmills once lined the River Zaan, working to saw wood, thresh grains and produce seed or nut oil, dye pigments, snuff and mustard.

The windmills line the river's edge with their large sails and thatched sides. The brightly painted green and white wooden houses on both sides of the river are welcoming. Geese line the small canal and squawk at new arrivals.

The windmill closest to the parking entrance is De Hadel, a small 19th-century meadow mill used to flush stagnant canals in pastureland. A little farther along toward the river is one called De Huismak ("the Homemakery") that produces fine mustard for sale.

One of the most popular is a dye and chalk mill called De Kat ("the Cat"). Watch for its black



Reflected in the still waters of a canal, one of the windmills in Kinderdijk, Netherlands, stands ready to keep excess water from land claimed from the sea hundreds of years ago.

and white four-legged resident. A windmill on this site has been processing raw materials for dye pigments since 1646, although the present 1780 windmill was moved from another location and

placed atop the original De Kat storehouse in the '60s.

De Kat is believed to be the last wind-powered dye mill in the world. The giant edge runner stones are attached to cogs and

spindles, moving with the wind. Pigments ground by the mill can be purchased inside, and chalk blocks are stored outside in preparation for grinding to use on soccer fields.



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

Visitors can also climb steep narrow ladders past the workings and then outdoors to a wooden deck to watch the sails turning just above their heads.

The next mill is De Zoeker ("the Seeker"), and it produces oils from seeds and nuts. Built in 1672 and restored in the early 20th century, it was moved to its present site in 1968 by lifting the body over power and railway lines, finally arriving by boat.

The mill uses two edge runner stones weighing together about 11,000 pounds to grind seeds and nuts into a meal that is heated on a stone stove. The heated mush is then pounded by heavy wedges to press out the oil. Nothing is wasted, as the leftover "cake" can be used as cattle feed. All the workings are run by wind power.

The most unusual windmill is one known as De Gekroonde Poelenburg ("The Crowned Poelenburg"). It is one of the last wood-sawing windmills in the country. It is open on three sides and is rotated into the wind by turning the whole body of the windmill on rollers built into the base. Other windmills, called smock mills, only rotate the capstan wheel attached to the sails while the body is stationary.

Built in 1869, The Crowned Poelenburg has been moved

SEE MILLS ON PAGE 24



A conductor waves to passengers to signal that Budapest's Children's Railway is about to leave the station.

# Where children rule the rails

BY DENNIS A. CAVAGNARO  
Special to Stars and Stripes

As the train pulled out of the station, a bespectacled girl, her red hair hanging in a pigtail half her height, asked very seriously for my ticket.

She wore the uniform of the Hungarian National Railways, with a black leather conductor's purse hanging from her shoulders, and held a huge ticket puncher in her hands.

She must have been all of 11, about the age of the rest of the railway crew.

Yes, it is children, ages 10 to 14, who operate a real — not an amusement park — railway in the Buda Hills above Budapest, Hungary. With certain exceptions for safety reasons, they are in charge of the railway's functions, albeit under adult training and supervision.

The Children's Railway is not a toy. It is a unique Hungarian National Railways narrow-gauge railway that snakes about seven miles along the highest ridge line above the city and the Danube River.

A 32-ton diesel locomotive



A crewmember uses a paddle to signal the engineer. Children perform all of the jobs of running a railway except driving the engines and coupling the cars.

hauls three or four coaches through an old oak forest populated by deer, wild boar, foxes, owls, squirrels, eagles, human hikers and, in the winter, skiers.

The railway, which opened in 1948, operates year round. Often during the midweek in winter, trains will run empty but keep to



Want to buy a ticket to ride? This young lady is at your service.

their timetables to give the children their hands-on training.

Becoming a member of the rail crew is a prize for good pupils, who compete in their schools for the two-week program. In the summer, they live in a tent camp, enjoying all the other summer camp activities in addition to running the railway.

The children operate seven



A conductor punches tickets for passengers.

stations and dispatch trains, monitor the progress of trains — often four, two in each direction — on the single-track line, light signals, throw switches and sell and punch tickets.

The trains operate at about 12 mph and stop at each station, making for a 46-minute run. At each terminal, the locomotive is uncoupled and run around to the front end for the return journey. While adults actually drive the engines and perform coupling, the children ensure the safety of the operation.

The line's most interesting engineering feature is its 198-meter horseshoe-shaped tunnel, which eliminates the need for a switchback because it allows the line to reverse itself.

The Huvosvolgy Station, one of the terminals, is built to mainline railway standards with two subway entrances. It houses the railway's operational headquarters as well as a delightful museum of the railway's history. One of its first steam engines is displayed as a monument.

Just past the station is the railway's operating turntable and its sheds. Below are the classrooms where the children are taught their duties before they go operational.

But the railway's biggest at-

traction is its staff. The children, dressed in uniforms that match those of the national railway, take their job seriously. Passengers can't help but be charmed by the youngsters' dedication, professionalism and cheerful attention to duty.

Little wonder the line is also called "The Train of Happiness."

Dennis Cavnagaro is a free-lance writer living in the United States.

## ABOUT BUDAPEST'S CHILDREN'S RAILWAY

About the railway: The Children's Railway began as the Pioneer's Railway, a project for the Young Pioneers under Hungary's then-Communist government. During that time the railway was fully funded by the government.

Since 1990, the railway has had to appeal for private, non-governmental support to keep operating. The Foundation for the Children's Railway seeks and gratefully receives donations. The railway and foundation's address is: Children's Railway (Gyermekvasút in Hungarian), H-1021 Budapest, Huvosvolgy, Hungary; telephone (+36) (01)-397-5396. The Web site (in Hungarian) is [www.c3.hu/~gyvasut/bpgv/main.html](http://www.c3.hu/~gyvasut/bpgv/main.html).



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

Getting there: To reach the railway by public transportation, take Budapest's Red Line Metro (M2) to Moszkva (Moscow Square). You then have two choices: To board the Children's Railway at its Szechenyi-hegy terminus, closest to Budapest, take either tram No. 18 or 56 to

Varosmajor, opposite the Budapest Hotel, and transfer to the electric cog-wheel railway tram.

The cog-railway, built in 1874, grinds its way up the hills through leafy, upscale neighborhoods for 20 minutes to the Szechenyi-hegy terminal opposite the Hotel Panorama. From there, it's a five-minute walk to the railway.

To board the railway at its farther — and more important — terminal, Huvosvolgy, take tram No. 56 to its end just below the Children's Railway station. The No. 56, for the most part, goes on a private track on grass and follows a stream through lovely residential neighborhoods.

— DENNIS CAVAGNARO

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There is plenty of good shopping in Zaanse Schans, Netherlands. Wooden tulips that keep their colors long after returning home and wooden shoes in numerous sizes and designs make great souvenirs and gifts.

#### MILLS, FROM PAGE 21

twice, coming to Zaanse Schans in 1963.

Zaanse Schans is also a great place for shopping. The Wooden Shoe Workshop demonstrates clog-making whenever a group gathers, and colorful wooden shoes can be purchased in most any size, from children's to large adults'. At the entrance, a wooden shoe museum displays historic and modern samples of the conventional Dutch footwear.

A cheese shop makes Dutch cheese on site for sale, and offers samples. Carved wooden tulips are a good bargain here.

Two other souvenir shops are filled with Dutch treasures including Delft pottery, and one with original paintings and ceramics. At the far end of the village is a pewter workshop inside a small 18th-century garden teahouse, where all items are cast and finished by hand. Other shops include an antique dealer and a maritime shop.

But if it's more windmills you are looking for, don't linger too long before heading to Kinderdijk, which has the most windmills in one place in Holland.

Walking into the village is a surprise treat, even if you think you know what to expect. It is the classic Dutch landscape, featured in

every photo essay of the country, with good reason. The canal is lined on both sides with 19 windmills, standing in their original places since 1740 to drain excess water from the Alblasserwaard polders, land reclaimed from the sea and protected by dikes.

Legend says Kinderdijk received its name after a 1421 flood, when a child was carried in its cradle along the waves, balanced by a cat and coming to rest on the slope of a dike.

For more than 120 years, the windmills kept the water in check until a steam pumping station was built. The steam station was replaced by a diesel one in 1927.

Due to the lack of fuel during World War II, the historic windmills were again put into service. Today, a new diesel pumping station keeps the polder dry by pumping the water into the River Lek, while the windmills stand tall on the flat countryside. In 1997, the Kinderdijk mills were placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The windmills are all within walking distance of one another over a paved path. Be careful of the many bike riders sharing the way.

A more leisurely option during the summer months is a canal tour. A small boat with indoor and outdoor seating provides a 30-minute trip from the beginning of the park, past the last windmill and back.



Under blue skies and soft clouds, the many windmills of Kinderdijk, Netherlands, present a peaceful, nat



The inside of the Visitors Windmill at Kinderdijk has been preserved, showing every available space used to the fullest, with box beds even built within the walls of the kitchen.

About halfway down the walk is the Visitors Windmill. Open seven days a week from late March through October, the museum offers a look at a preserved interior of a windmill. A small kitchen and beds built within the walls answer the curiosity of how the miller and his family lived. Steep ladders lead up to the top of the three levels with views out of small windows to the other mills.

Kinderdijk is truly a spectacular sight. On a sunny day, the windmills reflect in the canal waters. Through August, all the windmills are turning on Saturdays. Although there is only one windmill to visit and one small shop at Kinderdijk, its attraction is a peaceful, natural beauty.

Lori Ann Martin is a lieutenant commander stationed at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Rota, Spain. E-mail her at [ladylam7@hotmail.com](mailto:ladylam7@hotmail.com).



Towering over the Dutch landscape, the Kinderdijk windmill has been preserved since 1968. It is the only windmill in the world.





PHOTOS BY LORI ANN MARTIN/Special to Stars and Stripes

lural beauty, reflecting the lazy romance of the Netherlands.



countryside, the oil mill De Zoeker ("The Seeker") was built in 1672 and moved to Zaanse Schans in 1972. The mill of its kind still grinding nuts and seeds to produce oil. Visitors can go inside daily.



Across the river from Zaanse Schans, typical merchant houses reflect the prosperous years of the past, when the merchants added extensions as profits allowed.

## If you go to see windmills

### Zaanse Schans

The site is open all year, with varying times for the windmills, museums and shops depending on the season. The following Web sites provide up-to-date details:

- [www.zaansechans.nl/EN/basis.html](http://www.zaansechans.nl/EN/basis.html)
- [www.zaansemolen.nl/05summary/00\\_homepage/uk\\_index.htm](http://www.zaansemolen.nl/05summary/00_homepage/uk_index.htm)

### Getting there

**Driving from Amsterdam:** Exit A10, the Amsterdam Ring toward Zaanstad, A8, and take the exit direction Purnerend, A7. Follow signs to Zaanse Schans. Turn right at the roundabout for the car park.

**By train from Amsterdam:** It is four stations (about 20 minutes) from Amsterdam Central Station. From the station, simply follow the little green signs to the Zaanse Schans, about a 15-minute walk. Across from the train station is the mill museum, closed on Mondays.

### Hours

Several mills are open for tours, admission to each is 2.50 euros for adults and 1.40 euros for children 6-12. Group prices are available.

■ **De Gekroonde Poelenburg** wood-sawing mill is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every second Saturday of the month and with prior arrangement for groups; telephone (+31) (0)75-621-51-48.

■ **De Kat pigment and chalk mill** is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily April through October and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekends November through March.

■ **De Zoeker oil mill** is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily March through October, and 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily November through February.

■ **De Bonte Hen oil mill** is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays throughout the year and whenever the mill is in operation.

■ **In addition to the windmills,** several museums are scattered within the village, including the only home interior open to visitors. The Noorderhuis Museum, located within a circa 1670 house, has furnishings

and costumed mannequins depicting the home of a 19th-century merchant. It is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily in July and August, and Tuesday through Sunday in September and October and March through June. It is open on weekends and public holidays during the rest of the year. Cost is 1 euro for adults, 50 euro cents for children and those over age 65, free for those with a Museum Year Card.

■ **The original grocer's shop** where the Ahold supermarket chain began is in Zaanse Schans, along with a Bakery Museum and a cottage where Russian Czar Peter the Great stayed for a week in 1697, unchanged since his visit. Peter's House is open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday and on Monday by appointment. Cost is 2 euros for adults, 1 euro for children 4-12, and free to Museum Year Card holders.

■ **The Wooden Shoe Workshop** and Museum are open 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays and 8:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. weekends April through September; 8:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. weekdays and 8:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends March and October; and 8:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily November through February. There are special hours for Christmas, Dec. 26. New Year's Eve and Jan. 1.

### Kinderdijk

The windmill park is accessible all year. See [www.kinderdijk.nl/](http://www.kinderdijk.nl/) for more information.

■ **Visitors Windmill** is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily from the end of March through October, with the last visitor at 5 p.m. Admission is 3 euros for adults, 1.80 euros for children under 16 and senior citizens. Group prices are available.

■ **Canal boat tours** are available May through September. The 30-minute trips begin at 10 a.m., with the last tour leaving at 5 p.m. Cost is 2.50 euros for adults, 2 euros for children 4-9, free for children under 4. Group prices are available.

■ **All windmills are in operation** during July and August. ■ **Sept. 6-11 is Moles Vericht,** when floodlights surround all the windmills. Cost is 2 euros.

— LORI ANN MARTIN

# Volksmarch

This weekend, the Stuttgart German-American Wandering Club will hold its 30th annual Volksmarch on the Burgolzholz of Stuttgart, Germany, otherwise known as Robinson Barracks (at Youth Services, building 15). Here are the details, as supplied by the club.

The start is a short distance from the center of Stuttgart and the quaint village of Bad Cannstatt, located along the Neckar River. An interesting fact about Stuttgart and its environs is that there are more forests, parks and vineyards there than in any other major city of Germany.

This year's trail will be different from those of the past four years. All trails (5, 10 and 20 kilometers) will go through the vineyards overlooking the Neckar River. The 10K and 20K both cross the Neckar and go by the Max-Eyth-See (lake), returning to the Robinson Barracks side of the Neckar across the locks. If you have good timing, you can watch a ship go through the locks.

The 20K trail splits off from the other two at the Neckar and crosses the river on the bridge at the entrance to the old city center of Bad Cannstatt. It then returns through parks and vineyards on the other side of the Neckar to enjoy the 10-kilometer trail after rounding Max-Eyth-See. The club recommends enjoying both the short and long trails, because they're distinctly different in landscape and sights along the locks.

This year's souvenir is a beer glass with a handle depicting the club's shield and commemorating its 30th walk. The beer glass is a wonderful keepsake of Germany and would be a nice gift for family and friends. You are welcome to buy as many as you wish for the same price as the start walk with medalion. A limited number of prizes from previous years are also available.

On Saturday and Sunday, there will be live music by the band L.E.G.A.L., along with the club's famous American hamburgers and ice cream. Many German walkers look forward to the American flavor that this club offers.

Drivers coming in on the B27 from either direction should look for special signs leading up to Burgolzholz, as there is a new overpass and the old turn no longer goes up the hill. Of course, the standard IVV signs will be posted.

And when you travel to the Stuttgart walk, take along a friend who has not done a march before; introduce a newcomer to the sport and community. The club members will have folks available to explain volksmarching in detail.

As I include with every article on our American-sponsored walks, the club needs your volunteer help to be successful. Don't let this opportunity pass you by; contact the club at [sgawc@yahoo.com](mailto:sgawc@yahoo.com). And don't miss this volkswalk!



Notes about this week's walk opportunities:

- Young-Walker's-Tour, or Bambini-Liga, credit is available at Grombach, Stuttgart and Wandersheim, Germany.

- Bring your own cup to receive free refreshments at the control points of the Frankfurt, Sprendlingen and Wandersheim walks.

- While the outside of the Lautenbach, Germany, brochure lists the 5K, 10K and 20K start times as 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., the inside shows Saturday's start window as 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday's as 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. The finish time on both days is 5 p.m. so I'd start no later than 2 p.m., especially if you want to walk the 20K.

Here are events sanctioned by the International Federation of Popular Sports (Internationaler Volkssportverband, or IVV) near U.S. military installations in Europe. Locations are noted in the host language when possible. Find more extensive lists on the Web at [www.ivv.org](http://www.ivv.org).

Country/Town	Day(s) and Time(s)	Code	Km.	Starting Point	Award	Directional Reference
<b>Austria</b>						
Lilienfeld	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	F	6 & 10	Gasthaus Bretler	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
Lilienfeld	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	Bike	12 & 25	Gasthaus Bretler	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
Trailsen	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	F	6 & 10	Gölsersmühlgasse	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
Willersdorf	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	Bike	12 & 25	Gölsersmühlgasse	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
Willersdorf	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	F	6 & 10	BMX Bahn	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
Willersdorf	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	Bike	12 & 25	BMX Bahn	Garden gnome	S of St. Pölten
<b>Belgium</b>						
Vierves-sur-Viroin	Sat 0700-1500	-	5 & 10	Salle Les Echos	No award	SE of Charleroi
Vierves-sur-Viroin	Sat 0700-1500	-	20 & 30	Salle Les Echos	No award	SE of Charleroi
<b>Denmark</b>						
Blavand	Sun 0800-1100	-	10	Aktivitetcenter	No award	NW of Esbjerg (near Ho)
Blavand	Sun 0800-1100	-	20	Aktivitetcenter	No award	NW of Esbjerg (near Ho)
Blavand	Sun 0800-0900	-	30	Aktivitetcenter	No award	NW of Esbjerg (near Ho)
Vesterhavns (Island)	Sun 0830-1030	-	5 & 10	Havn	No award	SE of Frederikshavn
Vesterhavns (Island)	Sun 0830-1030	-	15 & 20	Havn	No award	SE of Frederikshavn
<b>France</b>						
Baserethal	Sat 1500-2000	F	10	Parking Ramstein-Plage	No award	S of Pirmasens
<b>Germany</b>						
Allendorf	Sat 0630-1300, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	6 & 10	Umlthalte	B-medal	HE, S of Herborn
Allendorf	Sat 0630-1300, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	6 & 10	Umlthalte	B-medal	HE, S of Herborn
Bamberg	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	F	10	Lebenshilfe	beer mug	FR, Ammersee/Trase
Bamberg	Sat & Sun 0600-1200	F	20	Lebenshilfe	beer mug	FR, Ammersee/Trase
Badstuck	Sat 0700-1500, Sun 0700-1500	BFX	6 & 10	Pausenhalle	B-medal/beer stein	SAR, NE of Saarbrücken
Dotzlar	Sat 0700-1500, Sun 0700-1500	BFX	5, 10 & 20	Kulturhalle	Model semi-truck	NRW, SE of Bad Berleburg
Dotzlar	Sat 0700-1500, Sun 0700-1500	Bike	30	Kulturhalle	Model semi-truck	NRW, SE of Bad Berleburg
Fichtelau-Matzenbach	Sat & Sun 0600-1300	F	5, 10, 20	Tumhalle	Potopuni burner	BWN, SE of Crailsheim
Fichtelau-Matzenbach	Sat & Sun 0600-1300	FS	11	C. Weinberg-Schule	Fanny padou	HE, S of Herborn
Griesborn	Wed 0800-1800	F	6 & 10	Am Turnheim TV	No award	SAR, NE of Saarlouis
Griesborn	Wed 0800-1800	DF	6 & 10	Schölbberghalle	Model semi-truck	BWN, NW of Heilbronn
Grombach	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	DF	6 & 10	Schölbberghalle	Model semi-truck	BWN, NW of Heilbronn
Grombach	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	DF	20	Mehrzweckhalle	Model bus	BWN, NW of Heilbronn
Heinzelten	Sat 1200-1700, Sun 0700-1400	F	5, 10, 20	Bürgerhaus	No award	SAR, NE of Neunkirchen
Lautenbach	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1400	F	5, 10, 20	Tumhalle	Coffee mug pair	OPF, SW of Wieden
Mantel-Weierhammer	Sat & Sun 0600-1300	BF	5, 10, 20	Sportplatz	B-medal	SCH, NE of Augsburg
Mühlhausen	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0700-1300	BF	5, 10, 20	Tum- u. Sporthalle	Walking toy figurine	HE, Emil-Rössler-Strasse 2
Neustadt	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0700-1300	BF	5, 10, 20	Tum- u. Sporthalle	Walking toy figurine	HE, Emil-Rössler-Strasse 2
Neustadt	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0700-1300	BF	5, 10, 20	Sportplatz	B-medal	BWS, SW of Walsdorf
Rötel	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	BF	5, 10, 20	Sportplatz	No award	OPF, SW of Walsdorf
Sprendlingen	Sat & Sun 0600-1400	BF	6 & 11	Sport- u. Kulturhalle	B-medal	RP, E of Bad Kreuznach
Sprendlingen	Sat & Sun 0600-1400	BF	20	Sport- u. Kulturhalle	Model semi-truck	RP, W of Bad Kreuznach
Stromberg	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	F	6 & 11	Deutsche Michel Halle	Model certificate	RP, W of Bingen
Stromberg	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	F	20	Deutsche Michel Halle	Model certificate	RP, W of Bingen
Stromberg	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	F	50	Deutsche Michel Halle	Patch & certificate	RP, W of Bingen
Stromberg	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	Bike	50	Deutsche Michel Halle	Model truck	RP, W of Bingen
Stromberg	Sat 0600-1500, Sun 0600-1300	Swim	300m/500m/1000m	Freibad (bus ft start)	Model truck	RP, W of Bingen
Stuttgart	Sat 1000-1400, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	5 & 10	Robinson Barracks	Beer glass	BWN, Stuttgart-Burgolzholz
Taben-Rödel	Sat 0600-1300, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	5, 10, 20	Robinson Barracks	Beer glass	BWN, Stuttgart-Burgolzholz
Wandersheim	Sat 0600-1300, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	5, 10, 20	Bürgerhaus	No award	RP, S of Trier
Wandersheim	Sat 0600-1300, Sun 0630-1300	BFX	5, 10, 20	Mehrzweckhalle	B-medal	RP, W of Koblenz

<b>Italy</b>						
Barva	Sat 1900	F	5 & 10	See misc. notes	See misc. notes	E Giavera del Montello
Forance	Sun 0900-1000	F	5 & 10	Pian del Gacc	No info	NE of Trento
Forance	Sun 0900-1000	F	13 & 21	Pian del Gacc	No info	NE of Trento
Mozzotto	Sun 0830-0930	F	17, 21	net to Alpini headqtrs	No award	E of Spilimberg
Valdisotto	Sun 0830-0930	F	10, 20	Piazza San Marco	Water bottle	NW of Bassano del Grappa
<b>Luxembourg</b>						
Steinsel	Sun 0700-1300	F	5 & 10	Centre de Loisirs	No award	N of Luxembourg city
Steinsel	Sun 0700-1300	F	20	Centre de Loisirs	No award	N of Luxembourg city
<b>Netherlands</b>						
Gulpen	Wed 1000-1500	-	5 & 10	Calé Paddock	No award	Dorpsstraat 13
Gulpen	Wed 1000-1500	-	18	Calé Paddock	No award	Dorpsstraat 13
St. Odilgerberg	Mon 1630-1900	-	10	Calé-Zaal Bergerac	Sticker	S of Roer
<b>Slovenia</b>						
Vogrkro	Sun 0830-0930	F	6, 12, 16	Lake Vojnogro Dam	T-shirt	E of Gorizia, IT

<b>GENERAL NOTES:</b>						
B - Awards from past events available (B-medals)						
D - Shower or wash facilities available at the start hall						
F - Free refreshment						
M - Marathon or long-distance event						
P - Music at start hall						
S - Stroller-friendly trails						
s - Shorter trail is specifically noted as stroller-friendly						
x - Award available only while supplies last						
W - Trail is accessible to wheelchair participants (and stroller friendly)						
3 - Start card and B-medal available for the reduced price of 3 euros						
3.3 - Start card and B-medal available for the reduced price of 3.30 euros						

<b>GERMAN STATE AND REGION CODES:</b>						
HE - Hessen	OPF - Oberpfalz					
MD - München-Oberbayern	RP - Rheinland-Pfalz					
NBS - Niedersachsen/Berlin	SAR - Saarland					
NRW - Nordrhein-Westfalen	SCH - Schwaben					
NDB - Niederbayern	THS - Thüringen/Sachsen					

■ The pair of porcelain coffee cups that you can take home for completing a Mantel-Weierhammer walk is near Mantel.

■ The Kleeblatt-Trio will perform on Saturday in the Neustadt, Germany, start hall (5 p.m. start) and on Sunday, the Kleeblatt-Trio will perform on Sunday 2 a.m. and 1 p.m. as the Junker-Hansens-Musikanten will help the club celebrate its 25th anniversary volkswalk.

■ Those who complete the walk, bike and swim events at Stromberg, Germany, will receive a certificate commemorating their triathlon success. Take note that while the 42K marathon will be held on both Saturday and Sunday, the 50K will only be on Sunday. A bus will transport swim participants free of charge from the Deutsche Michel Hall start location to the Freibad and back.

■ If you're planning to walk the 20K or 30K at Vierves-sur-Viroin, Belgium, start

early enough to finish your trail by 5 p.m.

■ Clark Soeldner, our "Italian walking guru," tells us that every evening 5- and 10-kilometer marches in Bavaria begin in the park next to the swimming pool. The souvenir is 1 kilogram of *pasta di grano duro* and 250 grams of *Tagliatelli alla Bolognese*.

E-mail your comments and Volkswalk information to [Jennifer.West@volkswalk.com](mailto:Jennifer.West@volkswalk.com), [MailStripes@volkswalk.com](mailto:MailStripes@volkswalk.com), or write her at Volkswalk Column, Stars and Stripes, Bldg 2899, Pulaski Barracks, APO AE 09227-3717 (MPS).

# Tours/Outdoors

## COMPILED BY KRISTIAN LOUGHLIN

### Stars and Stripes

Send listings at least two weeks ahead of the intended publication date via e-mail to [travel@e-mail.estrines.osd.mil](mailto:travel@e-mail.estrines.osd.mil). (Listings are printed as space allows.) Please include prices. If you have questions, please call (+49) (0) 6155-60-268.

## Belgium

**Brussels Outdoor Recreation** offers a tour to Paris on **July 31**, \$40. Call 02-717-9775 for more information.

## England

**RAF Croughton** offers: **July 24**, Forest of Dean family walk; **July 25**, Brecon Beacons mountain horse-shoe walk. Call DSN 236-8419 or CIV (01280) 70-8419.

## Germany

**Kaiserslautern Outdoor Recreation** offers: **July 23-25**, rafting, canyoning, paragliding and biking; **July 24**, bike the Bliess River, \$285; **July 24**, Legoland, \$75; **July 25**, paintball in Baumholder, \$25; **July 30**, after work spa night, \$30; **July 30-Aug. 1**, shopping in Karlovy Vary, call for price; **July 30-Aug. 1**, Swiss Alps, \$160. Call DSN 489-7751 or CIV 0631-538-

7751.

**Kettbach Outdoor Recreation** offers tandem parachuting **July 24-25**. Call DSN 467-3225 or CIV 09802-83-3225.

**The 417th BSB Outdoor Recreation** at Larson Barracks in Kitzingen, Germany offers these trips: **July 22**, road bike ride; **July 24**, trout fishing; **July 28**, Frankfurt Zoo; **July 30-Aug. 1**, white-water rafting and canyoning weekend. Call DSN 355-8629 or civilian 09321-305-8629.

**Manheim Outdoor Recreation** offers: **July 24**, paintball, \$20; **July 31**, rappelling down the cliffs above Schriesheim castle. Call DSN 381-7215 or 7232, or CIV 0621-780-7215 or 7232.

**Ramstein Outdoor Recreation** offers: **July 23-25**, Swiss weekend; **July 23-25**, Jungfrau sightseeing and shopping; **July 23-25**, alpine hiking and white-water rafting; **July 23-25**, Klettersteig in the Alps; **July 31**, Kaiserslautern bike tour; **July 31-Aug. 1**, extreme downhill biking weekend. Call DSN 480-5705 or civilian 06371-47-5705.

**Ramstein (KMC) RTT Destinations Unlimited** offers these bus trips: **July 23-25**, Prague; **July 24-25**, castles on the Rhine, \$89; **July 24**, King Ludwig's castles, \$99; **July 31**, champagne regions of France. Trips by air: **Oct. 9-16** and **Nov. 20-27**, Egypt. **Oct. 24-31**, Moscow and St. Peters-

burg. Call DSN 480-6330, 489-7064, 486-7719 or go to [www.RTTTravel.com](http://www.RTTTravel.com).

**Wiesbaden/Dexheim Outdoor Recreation** offers: **July 22**, biking in Rudesheim; **July 23-25**, Austrian adventure weekend, regular tours include: **Mondays**, introduction to scuba, **Tuesdays**, rock climbing; **Wednesdays**, swimming; **Thursdays**, bouldering; **Saturdays**, skating; **Sundays**, biking, **every weekend**, Rhine River cruise and wine probe. Call Wiesbaden at DSN 337-5760 or CIV 0611-705-5760 and Dexheim at DSN 334-5818 or CIV 06133-69-618.

**Spangdahlem Outdoor Recreation** offers: **July 31**, Luxembourg Cave rappelling, \$35; **July 24-25**, Luxembourg rafting and castle hiking, \$70. Call DSN 452-6466 or CIV 06561-61-6466.

**Spangdahlem ITT** offers: **July 24-25**, Bavarian highlights: Munich, Dachau, Lindehof and Neuschwanstein, \$179; **July 31**, Rothenburg o.d. Tauber, \$55; **July 31**, Strasbourg express, \$45. Call DSN 452-6466 or CIV 06561-61-6466.

**USO Rhine-Neckar Region** offers: **July 24**, Idar-Oberstein, \$49; **July 25**, Lusenpark, \$5; **July 25**, Mespelbrunn castle and Johannisberg, \$49; **July 27**, Weinheim, \$10; **July 28**, shopping in France, \$35; **July 31**, four-castle illumination, 20 euros; **July 31**, Mettlach, \$29.

Contact USO Darmstadt at DSN 348-7918; USO Heidelberg at DSN 370-7924; and USO Mannheim at DSN 385-3195.

**USO Stuttgart** offers: **July 23**, Monte Mare water park, \$58; **July 24-25**, Karlovy Vary shopping express, \$55; **July 26**, The Roman Road, Drinkesbuhl and Nordlingen, \$45; **July 28**, Neustadt crystal shopping, \$35; **July 30-Aug. 1**, Amsterdam, \$214; **July 31**, Bayreuth, call for price. Call DSN 430-8811 for info.

## Italy

**ITT Gaeta** offers: **Sept. 3-6**, Prague, Czech Republic; **Sept. 19-20**, Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany; **Oct. 8-11**, weekend in Sicily; **Nov. 25-28**, Thanksgiving in Paris. Call DSN 627-7632 or CIV 0771-709-632.

**ITR Vicenza** offers: **July 24**, cruise the Brenta canal, \$45; **July 24**, Paradise Island water park, \$12; **July 24**, Cinque Terre express, \$45; **July 25**, Fishermen's Feast dinner cruise and fishing, \$65; **July 26**, Pinco concert in Lucca, \$35; **July 31**, Innsbruck, Austria, \$40. Call DSN 634-7094.

**USO Naples** offers these tours: **Mondays**, Naples city, \$19; **Tuesdays**, Herculaneum and Vesuvius, \$49; **Wednesdays**, Christian Rome, \$55, and Walk of Historical Naples,

\$29; **Thursdays**, Sorrento and Amalfi Coast, \$35; **Fridays**, Pompeii and Vesuvius, \$40, and Wine Tasting After Work, \$39; **Saturdays**, MINI Cruise of Amalfi, \$45; **Sundays**, Rome of the Caesars, \$55. Call USO Naples at DSN 636-5713.

**USO Rome** offers daily tours, including: **Roman Holiday**, a four-day tour with three nights in a three-star hotel; **Sundays through Wednesdays**, papal audience, includes four meals and free guided tours, \$439 per person with discounts available; **every Wednesday**, Super City Tour, free, **two days a week**, Rome walk, a three-hour walking tour, **two times a week**; Vatican City, **six days a week**, the Christian catacombs and to St. Paul's, **twice a week**, van and walking tour of the Colosseum with Roman Forum; **four days a week**, Rome After Dark, 7 p.m.; **Friday and Saturday**, Monuments of Rome, includes dinner; **seven days a week**, Ancient Rome, **seven days a week**; Christian catacombs, includes Basilica of St. Mary Major, Basilica of St. John in Lateran, the Ancient Atrium Way and Catacombs of St. Callistus, **seven days a week**; Illuminated Rome, **seven days a week**; Naples, Capri and Sorrento day trip, Blue Grotto, Ana Capri and lunch in Capri, **daily**; Tivoli day trip, **four times a week**.

Call (+39) (0) 6-686-4232 for more info. Check the Web site ([www.uso.it](http://www.uso.it)) for prices and times.

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# BE SAFE, MAKE IT HOME

Summertime fun has hidden risks, which is why the Army in Europe implemented its summer safety campaign. The campaign promotes key areas of vehicle accident prevention, heat injury prevention, and various aspects of recreation. Automobile safety tops the list, according to USAREUR Safety Manager Dave Scott, citing the deaths of six of our personnel in crashes so far this year - three times more than the same period last year. Scott said Army in Europe members need to make it personal, and consciously anticipate and address driving dangers like autobahn construction sites, where traffic goes, as he put it, from "the speed of light speed to a crawl, and always just around a bend in the road." Driving on secondary roads has been particularly hazardous. Scott says that drivers shouldn't underestimate the time it takes to pass in relation to how far you can see so that you don't misjudge the speed of oncoming traffic. "Soldiers, civilians, and family members need to be prepared and drive defensively. Relax, be patient and enjoy the scenery," Scott said. Good safety tools are available as part of the campaign on the USAREUR home page at <http://www.hqsareur.army.mil>. You will find tips on trip planning, automated risk assessments and vehicle inspections. Trip planning is especially relevant during the summer travel season. Mr. Mike Willoughby, IMA Europe Safety Manager, emphasizes the need to plan enough time for the return trip. "Don't wait until the last minute to return and then feel the need to speed or drive through the night." In addition to plenty of time, Willoughby suggests some other important planning considerations: Plan travel routes that avoid traffic jams, construction and potentially dangerous areas. Again, check out the USAREUR home page for more safety sense! Know what kind of documents you need to get to your final destination. Be prepared for mechanical and medical emergencies. Make sure you have medical coverage while on vacation. Know how to contact emergency services for your vacation location and en route to and from the vacation location. After you've done your planning, it's time to consider what to pack. In addition to clothes and the latest bestseller, Willoughby suggests the following packing tips to help make your vacation a safer and more pleasant experience: An emergency kit appropriate for your mode of travel to give you peace of mind and perhaps even insure that you make it to your destination. Willoughby also has some suggestions for things to leave behind. Leave a copy of your itinerary, credit card numbers, travel documents, prescriptions, and a spare house key with someone you trust and whom you can reach in an emergency. Safety awareness doesn't stop once you're at your vacation location, says Willoughby "Be Safe and make it home!"

USAREUR &amp; 7th Army

IMA, Europe Region









In announcing the new nonpartisan voting initiative Citizen Change, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs said Tuesday in New York he intended to make voting "cool." That included enlisting the help of stars Ben Affleck, Mariah Carey and Mary J. Blige, and putting the motto "Vote or Die" on clothing by Phat Farm and P. Diddy's Sean John label.

## Young, minority voters sought out by P. Diddy

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Trendsetters, fashionistas, rappers — Sean "P. Diddy" Combs wants you.

Specifically, he's looking for the "sexy people" to help him entice young people and minorities to vote in the presidential election, as part of his new nonpartisan voting initiative called Citizen Change.

"Now we're going to make voting cool," the hip-hop mogul/broadway actor/marathon runner/fashion designer/perpetual A-lister proclaimed as he trotted out fresh young faces, supermodels and even Democratic strategist James Carville at an event to begin his drive.

"For the first time in history, we're going to make voting fashionable," he said.

Citizen Change plans to link up with MTV, BET, Clear Channel and other media outlets to increase voter awareness, and P. Diddy said there will be registration drives on college campuses and education initiatives to make people more aware of the election and the issues.

P. Diddy said both President Bush and Democratic challenger John Kerry will be invited to participate in Citizen Change events.

P. Diddy already has enlisted stars Ben Affleck, Leonardo DiCaprio, Mariah Carey and Mary J. Blige for the effort, and labels such as Ecko, Phat Farm and his own Sean John have been tapped to create clothing featuring the initiative's motto — "Vote or Die!" — which Diddy himself wore as the news conference.

Models Tyson Beckford and Lucas provided eye candy as they modeled the T-shirts, and P. Diddy provided plenty of levity.

When he said the group would charter a jet to travel to swing states, he was kidding. "We're going to have the sexiest jet!" he said.

### Actors Dunst, Gyllenhaal split

LOS ANGELES — Kirsten Dunst and Jake Gyllenhaal, the young stars of two of Hollywood's big summer movies, have ended their romance.

Dunst, the co-star of "Spider-Man 2," and Gyllenhaal, who appears in the disaster epic "The Day After Tomorrow," have gone their separate ways, his publicist said Tuesday.

"It's been a while, but they have remained the best of friends," Annett Wolf said.

The 22-year-old Dunst and Gyllenhaal, 23, began dating about two years ago after being introduced by his sister, Maggie Gyllenhaal, who appeared with Dunst in "Mona Lisa Smile."

From The Associated Press

## AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available in the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2004					
(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00 Dr. Phil	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Nightline	Cycling Tour de France - Stage 16 (Taped)	The Wild Thornberries	Yu-Gi-Oh!
9:30 Oprah Winfrey	Jackie Chan	Army Newsweek	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Jackie Chan
10:00 Guiding Light	Jeopardy!	Hardball With Chris Matthews	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Jeopardy!
11:00 ESPN News	Wheel of Fortune	60 Minutes II	Happy Days	Happy Days	Headline News
11:30 General Hospital	Advisory Block	Women's Soccer Australia vs. United States (Taped)	ESPN News	One Tree Hill: The Search for Something More	ESPN News
12:00 Headline News	Everybody-Ramond	The O'Reilly Factor	Baseball Tonight	The West Wing "Insurrection" (Part 1 of 2)	Everybody-Ramond
12:30 Judge Judy	Scrubs	Good Morning America	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	Scrubs
13:00 Today Matt Damon; Halle Berry: "It's Cognito"	Carol Burnett: Let's Bump Up the Lights	ER "Just a Touch"	Dominick Dunne: Power, Principle & Justice	Carol Burnett: Let's Bump Up the Lights	Today Matt Damon; Halle Berry: "It's Cognito"
14:00	ER "Just a Touch"	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	ER "Just a Touch"	
15:00	Headline News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	Movie "Inspector Morse: Infernal Serpent" (1990, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately	Headline News	
15:30 Hey Arnold!	The Tonight Show	World News	The Tonight Show	Hey Arnold!	
16:00 Yu-Gi-Oh!	The Early Show	The Early Show	The Early Show	Yu-Gi-Oh!	
16:30 Jackie Chan	Late Show	Late Show	Late Show	Jackie Chan	
17:00	Headline News	Access Hollywood	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberries	Headline News
17:30	Destinations	Movie ***** "In the Heat of the Night" (1967, Mystery) Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger	FOX News	SpongeBob	Destinations
18:00 AFN Evening News	Movie ***** "Kramer vs. Kramer" (1979, Drama) Dustin Hoffman, Faye Dunaway, John Heard, Meryl Streep, Justin Henry	60 Minutes II	ESPN News	The Simpsons	AFN Evening News
19:00	Headline News	Headline News	Baseball Tonight	Happy Days	Headline News
20:00	Headline News	Headline News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	One Tree Hill: The Search for Something More	Headline News
21:00	Headline News	Headline News	Movie ***** "Kramer vs. Kramer" (1979, Drama) Dustin Hoffman, Faye Dunaway, John Heard, Meryl Streep, Justin Henry	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	Headline News
22:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:30	Late Show	Late Show	Late Show	Late Show	Late Show
FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2004					
00:00 (11:30) Late Show	(11:00) Today	Headline News	SportsCenter	(11:00) "Inspector Morse: Infernal Serpent"	(11:00) Today
00:30 Access Hollywood	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	Sesame Street (E)	Access Hollywood
1:00 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Sesame Street (E)	ABC World News	SpongeBob	The Wild Thornberries	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced (Live)
1:30	CBS Evening News	CBS Evening News	Happy Days	Happy Days	CBS Evening News
2:00	Little Bill	Countdown With Keith Urban	WBNA Basketball Teams to Be Announced	The Simpsons	Little Bill
2:30	Robmar	Hannity & Colmes	Headline News	Headline News	Robmar
3:00	Dr. Phil	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Dr. Phil
3:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
4:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
5:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
6:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
7:00	Sesame Street (E)	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Sesame Street (E)
7:30	General Hospital	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	General Hospital
8:00	Little Bill	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Little Bill
8:30	Wheel of Fortune	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Wheel of Fortune
9:00	Dr. Phil	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Dr. Phil
9:30	Jeopardy!	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Jeopardy!
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Oprah Winfrey
10:30	Guiding Light	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Guiding Light
11:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
11:30	General Hospital	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	General Hospital
12:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
12:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
13:00	Today The Corrs; Frances Conroy	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Today The Corrs; Frances Conroy
14:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
14:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
15:00	House of Mouse	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	House of Mouse
15:30	Rocko's Modern Life	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Rocko's Modern Life
16:00	Ozzy & Dixie	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Ozzy & Dixie
16:30	As Told by Ginger	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	As Told by Ginger
17:00	Jeopardy!	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Jeopardy!
17:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
18:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
19:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
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21:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
21:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
22:30	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:00	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News
23:30	Late Show	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Late Show

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STARS AND STRIPES

## Mary-Kate to get out

After six weeks at a treatment facility for a health-related issue, Mary-Kate Olsen, the brunette half of the Olsen twins, is "doing well" and her fans can "expect her to return home soon," her publicist, Michael Pagnotta, said Tuesday.

The 18-year-old actress has been reported to be battling an eating disorder.

People magazine said Tuesday that Mary-Kate will be released this weekend, return home to her family and begin preparing for college in the fall.

Mary-Kate and her blond twin sister, Ashley, turned 18 in June. They plan to attend New York University in the fall.

They've been acting together since they were 9 months old, most notably on the sitcom "Full House" and in a series of direct-to-video movies. They've also attached their names to a line of products ranging from clothing to beauty items to home decorating merchandise.

Their big-screen debut, "New York Minute," did poorly at the box office after its May release.

## Director needed

Tom Cruise better hope his latest mission is anything but impossible: find a new director for "Mission: Impossible 3" ASAP.

Cruise, who's starring and co-producing the spy sequel, needs to find a new director fast, now that filmmaker Joe Carnahan has bailed on the project, citing the usual "creative differences," reports E!Online.

With production on the third installment in Paramount's blockbuster franchise scheduled to begin next month, the 42-year-old Cruise needs to start working the Rolodex.

Carnahan is the latest filmmaker to drop out. "Seven" director David Fincher had originally signed to do "MI-3" but opted out for another project.

## Travolta to tell all?

John Travolta is already an actor, singer and pilot. Now he may add "author" to that list, reports MSNBC.com.

The "Pulp Fiction" and "Get Shorty" star is planning to write a book about his life, says a source, and his people have been calling publishing houses to set up meetings between the star and editors.

The source adds that it's "highly unusual" for a star who not too long ago was reportedly earning \$20 million a movie to write about his life. "Usually, it's the lesser stars or someone in the twilight of his career or country and western stars," said the source, who added that it's "unclear" whether Travolta will address tabloid reports that have haunted him.

"He certainly has an interesting story to tell," said the source, who said he was told "not to be surprised" if Travolta wants to write about the influence of religion, Scientology, has had on his life.

From wire services

# Let's get ready to ogle

## There's no shortage of competitors as WWE seeks a RAW Diva finalist

BY LYNN ELBER

The Associated Press

MARINA DEL REY, CALIF.

There were twins, two sets, all very blond. There were women in low-cut blouses, high-cut skirts and enough lip gloss to put a good shine on a midsize car.

Grunting, groaning and airborne bodies were nowhere to be seen when more than 100 hopefuls gathered for World Wrestling Entertainment's RAW Diva contest.

Instead, mirror space was at a premium in a ballroom of the seaside Ritz-Carlton Hotel as the women meticulously primed for interviews and photos.

A perfumed cloud lingered heavily in the restroom.

"Wow, you can sure smell a lot of hair products in here," one would-be diva marveled.

It's sweetness, not sweat, WWE wants in the winner who will get a \$250,000, yearlong contract.

Viewers of Spike TV's Monday two-hour "RAW" programming block will decide the outcome over the next two months.

Tryouts also were held in Chicago and New York, yielding a field of 28 contestants who were winnowed to 10 finalists on a live special that aired last week July 15 on Spike.

Is wrestling, long seen as a bastion of

trash and flash, going soft?

No, just trying to gradually class up its act, said Kevin Dunn, WWE executive vice president of television production.

"It's easy to go lowbrow," he said. "That's not where we're going with our product in general, or this search. We'll be fighting our image for 50 years, because there's 50 years (of tradition) before us, and we understand that."

Of the future diva, he said, "We want someone we can put on a pedestal here and who can represent the WWE in a classy — I wouldn't say sophisticated — but a classy, nice manner."

What she will actually do remains to be defined.

The diva doesn't need to wrestle but could if she wanted. She might become an announcer, a global WWE representative or a "character" in the WWE family that includes wrestlers Triple H, John Cena and Torrie Wilson.

"Our show is entertainment and this woman will have what it takes to entertain our fans," said Lisa Lee, WWE director of global television business affairs. "We can work with her to develop and showcase that ability in a number of ways."

Through telephone and Internet voting, viewers will dump one contestant each week until three are left. The winner will be chosen on the Sept. 13 installment of "RAW."

Weekly competitions, yet to be designed, will help viewers decide the most diva-esque individual. Really skimpy attire also will help guide the audience in its decision-making.

Contestants, trying to cover all bases, tossed a grab bag of credentials at judges in the tryouts. Up to 7,000 women responded to the open call for diva applicants; only a few hundred made the semifinal cut.

Jennifer R. Lopez (not THAT J Lo, as far as we know) listed a victory in the Hawaiian Tropic modeling contest and talents including "bellydancing, cartoon voices, stabs a knife through her fingers very fast." A finalist? Yes!

Carmella DeCesare, another finalist, was Playboy.com's February 2003 Cyber Girl of the Month and 2004 Playmate of the Year. She also appeared in ads for swim-

**Nina Hardin competes for the title of Diva and a \$250,000 contract with World Wrestling Entertainment.**



AP photos

**Brandi Michelle Bourbon, center, and other women competing for a \$250,000 contract with World Wrestling Entertainment prepare for the WWE's RAW Diva contest at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in the Marina Del Rey area of Los Angeles earlier this month.**

wear, toothpaste and Pampers.

Twins Julia and Chandra Costello, whose credits include serving as original "juggo dancers" on "The Man Show," both made the cut. Kimmy and Amy Brown, the other Los Angeles-area twin set,

**"Our show is entertainment and this woman will have what it takes to entertain our fans."**

**Lisa Lee**

WWE director of global television business affairs

were cruelly divided: Kimmy is in, her sister is out.

In a promotional spot for the diva contest included in last Monday's "RAW," one twin, presumably the loser, was seen sniffing weeping. Turns out there is crying in wrestling.

More than a bruised ego is at stake. There's the money and exposure that could lead to ... well, that's anybody's guess.

"RAW" is consistently the top-rated series on ad-supported cable, attracting up to 7 million weekly viewers, although many contestants were unfamiliar with the show or sport.

"It's not about wrestling for me," said finalist Karen McDou-

gal, who tried out with friend Heather Tindell. "They're looking for a host and that's what we like to do."

Although not a wrestling fan, "I could easily turn into one," offers McDougal, a model, actress and the 1998 Playmate of the Year. Her host duties include "E! Wild On" and Playboy TV.

McDougal's age? "Next question."

A few out-of-towners came to this diva search, but the pre-screened group was mostly a familiar Los Angeles mix drawn to yet another chance for fame and fortune — beauty required, talent optional.

"Right now, I'm just doing the L.A. thing," said Tiffany Holliday, a former Playboy bunny who could be kin to Pamela Anderson and who was urged by a "fan in Texas" to try out.

After living at Hugh Hefner's mansion for two years, she figures: "I think I've been in training for this. I think I can definitely handle it."

She didn't make the finals, but Holliday has bigger dreams: the novel she's writing and the screenplay she hopes will follow.

Willowy model-actress Nina Hardin professed a longtime love of wrestling ("I grew up watching Hulk Hogan") and said the money and chance to get on TV were equally appealing.

One of the finalists, Hardin is ready for whatever divahood might take her.

"I'm up to any possibility, any opportunity. I'm a spontaneous, fun type of girl. It's all good."

## STARS AND STRIPES. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## Bamberg dress code

The community of Bamberg was informed at the conclusion of the school year that beginning in September there was a "Community Dress Code." There is a history regarding this issue at Bamberg. I have lived in this community for eight years, and this is the third time we have voted to have "uniforms." It passed this time. Why?

At the town hall meeting on Feb. 10, there was quite a discussion about uniforms. The Army and Air Force Exchange Station had reported it could not bring in Husky-size clothing for young children due to limited space. Then 25 minutes later, they promised they could have uniforms for more than 600 students who attend the elementary school. Where did they find space in 25 minutes? The School Advisory Committee members present gave a nice fashion show to display the acceptable uniform to include the color of socks and the type of shoes that would be acceptable. (The color of socks and socks has been eliminated from the code.)

When community members asked why the need for uniforms, the immediate response was it would improve discipline, eliminate gang-style apparel, and would decrease the differences of economic status. The Provost Marshal was quick to announce there have been no apparent gang-related activities on our part.

When SAC mailed out ballots, there was a very small return, just a little over 100. I have thought the issue would be dismissed due to lack of parent support or interest. Instead, the base commander took the reins and instructed his office personnel to call every family.

If you were reached, the conversation was similar to this, "Hello, Mrs. Hodges! I am calling from the base commander's office. I have been tasked to call you and get your feelings about uniforms. Do you support it or not?"

When we voted and other comments noted on the call list! Only two-thirds of the community was reached. What about the remaining families? Why were they not given the opportunity to vote? With the number of fathers deployed, were both parents given the opportunity to vote? Due to the family's return address being on the ballot, were the families that returned their ballot with the "yes" vote tagged families to call?

The Department of Defense Education Activity does not have a dress code policy. Schools can have a dress code, but it generally only pertains to safe and non-violent sexually suggestive clothing. So now, because of the school year, the teachers and school administrators will be tasked with becoming uniform police.

Will dress code violations decrease school discipline and will the base commander and school leaders support the school when there are problems with this issue and/or behavior problems? Is the "community" dress code when only the elementary school is affected? Many parents

## Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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have brought up the issue of force protection. The immediate response is there have been no incidents with students in Schweinfurt, where there is a dress code. However, Sept. 11 shows that it only takes one incident and then we have a crisis.

But the big question that needs to be addressed is: Is this truly a community-supported endeavor or pushed through using non-democratic procedures?

If you have questions on the new policy or would like to express your support, you are encouraged to attend the first SAC meeting in September.

Dianne Hodges

Bamberg, Germany

## Atheists have rights, too

In response to "Only Christians told to change" (July 13), I am sorry the author chose to use the word "Christian" as a lack of tolerance of Christians. But Christianity is not the only religion and Christians are not deserving of special treatment.

I have been an atheist since about 1977, and I have been proudly serving in the U.S. Army since late 1983. Does the writer think that my beliefs haven't been burned during the last 20 years?

Yes, I am an atheist. I can't count how many invocations I have had to listen to since I enlisted. All I ever asked for was the occasional opportunity to excuse myself during the prayers. What was I told? Just go along with it.

Re-enlistments were always fun. My insistence that the officer reading the oath substitute the word "affirm" for "swear," and leave off "so help me God" always got a positive response from everyone in attendance (just kidding). If books could kill, I probably would have been dead the last three times I re-enlisted.

I make it a point to try to not judge anyone or to try to change their beliefs. Does the writer think that not one "Christian" has ever tried to convert me or change my beliefs? There have been too many to count. I know that they think they are doing "God's work" or doing me a favor, but I can do

without it. The letter makes me think of paraphrasing the popular "WWJD" question. I would like to present this as "What Would (Thomas) Jefferson Do?" I'm sure that one of our nation's Founding Fathers would have an interesting opinion on this subject.

I also got the feeling after reading the letter that the writer somehow feels persecuted by the actions that he is describing. At least he isn't being burned at a stake or anything like that.

In closing, I would like to include the writer's last paragraph. I'll take my chances with the time constraints of "TJ." I'll keep sending my monthly Combined Federal Campaign contribution to the American Civil Liberties Union.

Sgt. 1st Class David L. Snyder

Giebelstadt, Germany

## Stop the winning

I am sick and tired of all the winning. Believe me, I know winning, because I am the mother of four children all under the age of 7.

But it's not their winning that I am talking about. It is the whine of the people who signed up for the military only to get a free education, and the deserters who claim they are suddenly opposed to war. As for the free riders, what did they think they were committing to? A few years of dress-up?

And for those suddenly opposed, why did you join in the first place? What exactly are you opposed to? Freeing the troops of a tyrant or just fighting terrorism in general? In "Sensitivity to war" (July 16), the writer said, "Our own leaders can't fathom the idea of talking, negotiating, or problem-solving." He's apparently forgotten the last 12 years and more of talking, negotiating and problem-solving that had the effect of numerous attacks against the United States, escalating to the devastation of Sept. 11.

I thought we discovered on that day that we can't live in a bubble, but must act to preserve our freedom and our way of life. These winners make me angry. The noble sacrifice that my husband and thousands of other men and women make willingly every day.

My advice? Shut up, stand up and fight. Or, at the very least, cheer for those who do.

Janan Welch

Vicenza, Italy

## Small travel section

How disappointed I was to see a print-sized travel section rather than the robust travel magazine the last few weeks. If the travel section corresponds to increased sales of the Thursday edition of the newspaper, and if budget concerns are driving this change, why not augment, rather than decrease, this section in order to bolster revenues?

Gayle S. Padgett

Heidelberg, Germany

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

## Doonesbury

"MY KID, MURDER, HERE'S A WRITING PROMPT FOR YOU: TO FOX NEWS STAFFERS..."



"I DON'T FALL INTO THE EASY TRAP OF MOURNING THE LOSS OF US TROOPS AND ASKING OUT LOUD WHY ARE WE THERE..."



"DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE MOURNING THE LOSS OF TROOPS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES IS A 'TRAP'?"



"YES, EVERYBODY ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT PLUS DEAD GUYS!"





## OPINION

## U.S. must put Iraq's small arms in its sights

BY RACHEL STOLH

When the United States turned over sovereignty to the new government of Iraq last month, it did so without confronting one of the most pressing problems facing the country: the millions of small arms and light weapons plaguing Iraq's security and threatening its stability. Excluding small arms from the long-term security plan is a deadly mistake.

Since the declared end of major combat operations in May 2003, an average of one American has died every day in Iraq, and more than one-third of these soldiers have been killed by small arms — revolvers, rifles, pistols and the like. Thousands more have been injured and some have been unable to complete their duties because of the level of violence and insecurity fueled by small arms. Moreover, uncounted Iraqi civilians have been killed, wounded, threatened or terrorized by small arms.

While U.S. policy-makers were consumed with finding weapons of mass destruction, mission planners largely ignored the threat of conventional weapons. Reports estimate that Iraq has perhaps the fourth-largest supply of conventional arms in the world. An embedded reporter in Iraq said military sources told him this included "3 million tons of bombs and bullets, millions of AK-47s and other rifles, rocket launchers and mortar tubes, and thousands of more sophisticated arms like ground-to-air missiles." The 2004 edition of the Small Arms Survey estimates that at least 7 million to 8 million small arms have fallen into the hands of Iraqi civilians since the fall of Saddam Hussein last year.

One of the additional challenges in dealing with small arms and light weapons in Iraq is the 2003 U.S. policy that allows Iraqi militias to keep their weapons. Most have chosen to keep an AK-47 for their personal security, but these arms often find their way out of homes and make their way to the black market or are used for crime and violence.

To address these myriad problems, the United States in mid-May undertook an eight-day gun buyback program in Iraq offering amnesty and cash in return for weapons — for instance, \$125 for an AK-47. It distributed about \$350,000 a day to individuals turning in weapons, from ammunition to surface-to-air missiles.

The effectiveness of this type of program, however, is questionable. First, Iraqis are not being required to turn in all their weapons. Second, many are buying weapons on the black market and turning them in to the Americans for a profit. There are even credible reports of Iraqis turning in older weapons in order to buy newer models on the street. And in some places, such as Karbala, U.S. troops ran out of money.

The buyback was a symbolic victory, for some weapons were removed from circulation. But it was an ad hoc and short-term program; it did little to increase overall safety and security, nor did it stymie the black market. Moreover, providing the equivalent of a month's salary or in some cases a year's wages to someone who has illegally possessed weapons is bound to fuel resentment and jealousy and created targets for criminals.

Iraqis would benefit more from community-based weapon-collection programs and



symbolic destruction celebrations. Rather than an individual receiving cash for each weapon turned in, neighborhoods could receive services that benefit the entire group — job training or the building of a post office or soccer field. With good incentives, such programs have worked in other nations. In all cases, the United States must destroy weapons quickly, preferably in a public demonstration, and securely stockpile those that have yet to be destroyed.

On June 22, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the

House Armed Services Committee that the United States should "expect more violence, not less, in the immediate weeks ahead." Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz told the same committee that the U.S. had "underestimated" the threat from insurgents in Iraq, and that the U.S. military could keep "a significant number" of U.S. troops in Iraq for "years to come." Developing a coherent, long-term strategy for small arms is not only prudent, it is lifesaving.

Rachel Stolh is senior analyst at the Center for Defense Information in Washington. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Many troops are in nations that can defend themselves

BY RAJAN MENON

At a congressional hearing July 7, the Army's new vice chief of staff, Gen. Richard A. Cody, answered the rhetorical question of whether U.S. military forces were stretched too thin with a resounding "absolutely."

Cody didn't take the genius of Clausewitz to figure out what his obvious: With 135,000 troops assigned to the war in Iraq, 17,000 in Afghanistan, 37,500 in South Korea, 47,000 in Japan and 100,000 in Europe, saying that we are overstretched is putting it mildly. In all, there are 368,900 U.S. troops in 120 countries.

Some drastic steps have been taken or are being contemplated to cope with the pressure.

Nearly 40 percent of the available National Guard and Reserve forces have been tapped for missions in Afghanistan and Iraq.

So-called stop-loss policies have been implemented to prevent soldiers from leaving units that have received orders to deploy. The Pentagon has called up 5,600 soldiers from postactive-duty "retirement." And policy wonks have brought up reinstituting the draft — though, for political reasons, this effort is unlikely to gain footing.

All of our problems in Iraq cannot be blamed on insufficient forces — the reliance on 135,000 troops to wage a counterinsurgency in a country of 25 million people and an area larger than California. It doesn't help that as yet no Iraq troops with the numerical strength and training to serve as true partners have emerged. As American casualties in Iraq mount, it will be harder to get people to enlist or re-enlist. And for those already engaged in combat, insufficient numbers make the inherent risks of war greater still.

Nor are we likely to see a diminished need for our military's involvement, although the pre-eminent problem of the current war was not the wars among the major powers but rather upheavals within weaker states — ethnic conflicts, failed governments, humanitarian crises and terrorism.

So what is to be done? One obvious step is to avoid military engagement under the rubric of "regime change" against a clear and present danger. The toppling of the Taliban, which occurred after that odious regime refused to turn over the mastermind behind the 9/11 massacres, met the standard. But the Iraq war, it is evident by now, did not.

Another approach is to reassess the military commitments inherited from the Cold War. What precisely are 100,000 U.S. troops doing in Europe? Against whom is

Europe being defended? And why is the European Union, whose economy and population exceed that of the United States, incapable of meeting its own defense needs now that the days of a rich, weak Europe and the specter of German revanchism and Soviet aggression are long gone?

A similar question must be asked in Japan. Against what threat are 47,000 U.S. troops defending that country, which, with a \$3.5 trillion economy, spends barely 1 percent of its GNP on defense, compared with our 3.7 percent? The idea that a self-sufficient Japan would return to the imperialism of the 1930s simply won't work anymore.

South Korea, too, can wean itself from its current reliance on the United States. True, it faces a real danger from a militarized, dictatorial and mercenary North Korea. But it is also one of the world's fore-

most economic powers, a technological leader and an industrial giant. It has the wealth to purchase or to manufacture all of the weaponry needed for its defense.

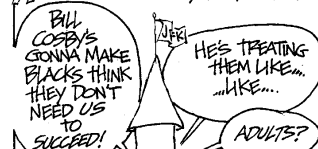
The point of such rethinking should not be to revert to isolationism or even to shuffle military units around. Rather, it should be part of an effort to cut ourselves loose from Cold War conceptions, to take stock of the world we live in now and to make clearheaded choices about where the new dangers lie and how we can best face them.

It's also time that we review what we can afford to do for others, and what they should rightly be encouraged to do for themselves. If we avoid such a recalculation, we will perpetuate outdated strategies, continue to overextend our military and persist in the strategic infantilization of our allies.

Rajan Menon is a professor of international relations at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Mallard Fillmore

Meanwhile, at the Kerry compound...



EXACTLY! HOW CAN WE SHUT HIM UP?!

I DOUBT IF HE COULD TAKE THE PAY CUT, SIR...





# Stepchildren must be accepted

**Dear Abby:** "Unwilling Step-mother in New Mexico" told you she "can't stand" her fiancé's 3-year-old daughter and knows she will be forced to care for the child because the mother doesn't want her.

"Unwilling" should do all three of them a huge favor and end the relationship. I married a woman two years ago and when my sons were 19 and 21, He had no children of his own and assured me he would accept mine unconditionally.

Now I am constantly berated for not "putting him first" or consulting him each and every time I want to spend time with my sons or help them. I'm heart sick that I didn't see this before I married him.

If "Unwilling" has any doubts, she should not go through with the marriage. I am seriously contemplating divorce because I see no other option.

— Fooled in Texas

**Dear Fooled:** I advised "Unwilling" that unless she can accept her fiancé and his daughter as a package deal and learn to love the little girl, that marriage would be a disservice to all of them. Thank you for adding the voice of experience. Read on:

**Dear Abby**



**Dear Abby:** "Unwilling Step-mother" seems to be more like a child than an adult. When she became serious with her fiancé, how could she not realize that his little girl would be a big part of her life? "Unwilling" needs serious family counseling, or to get out of there. She also seems to have no clue about child development. Most 3-year-olds have a very self-centered view of life. They must be lovingly taught to become giving as they grow.

I married a man with two children eight years ago. As part of our marriage vows, I promised

to love his children as my own. It wasn't easy, but today I am reaping the rewards of having two wonderful stepchildren and one biological child. I became very ill after the baby was born, and who do you think was always there to help? Yes — both of my stepchildren. I love them as my own and could not imagine life without them.

— Disgusted in California  
**Dear Disgusted:** You have made some excellent points in your letter. However, for family counseling to work, all parties have to be honest with each other and willing to compromise. "Unwilling" would be the little one's primary caregiver — and her mind seemed pretty well made up. Her question was whether she should level with her fiancé about her feelings and tell him she's leaving — or wait for him to figure out how she felt and give her his walking papers.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, St. Louis, MO 63166. Readers can write to Abby on the internet at <http://www.ueppress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

POUCE

PIDEB

JASTUD

BARJEB

Answers:     TO

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Arginton The \$20,000 PCs have been DISCONTINUED



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

# Staying with ex-in-laws can be avoided

**Dear Annie:** I am having a conflict with my ex-husband's parents. My children and I plan to take a vacation near their home, and Grandma and Grandpa want us to stay with them. I am not comfortable with this, as they continue to support their son in his choice of an unhealthy lifestyle (alcohol and drugs), which is damaging and unsafe for our children to be around.

I know they want to see their grandchildren, but I want my kids to be protected from their unhealthy influence. What should I do?

— Confused in California

**Dear Confused:** You do not have to stay with the ex-in-laws in order for the children to see their grandparents, under your supervision, for a short time. Simply thank them for their generous offer, tell them you already have reservations elsewhere (make sure you do), and ask when it would be convenient to visit.

**Annie's Mailbox**



**Dear Annie:** I read the letter from "Against Guns in Lawrence, Kan.," who is concerned about her child being invited to the homes of playmates whose parents own guns. I agree that parents have the duty to set limits for their children. The problem is, how do you know if the parents have guns?

Please tell "Lawrence" to teach her children what to do if they encounter a gun. Encourage her to enroll her children in the NRA's Eddie Eagle program, which teaches children who see a gun:

- Don't touch it.
- Leave the area.
- Go tell an adult.

These rules work. I know, because besides being a father of a 7-year-old, I also am a police officer with 17 years' experience.

— S.M., Police Officer, North Carolina

**Dear Officer:** Several readers recommended a gun safety pro-

gram, and we cannot argue with the logic of teaching children how to protect themselves. Nonetheless, parents should know all they can about their children's play environment. Here's one more:

**Dear Annie:** I am writing to thank you for your thoughtful response to "Against Guns in Lawrence, Kan." I applaud her for being aware that her son's playmate's family has a gun. So many of us, unfortunately, don't ask. We don't think to do so or aren't comfortable bringing up the topic. But more than 40 percent of American homes with children also contain guns. In 25 percent of these homes, guns are kept loaded and unlocked. Asking can save lives.

— Shikha Hamilton, National Spokesmom, Million Mom March

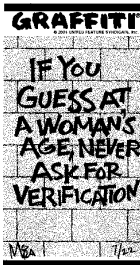
Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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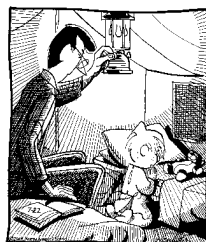
## Family Circus



"I saw it on TV once, but it looked littler."

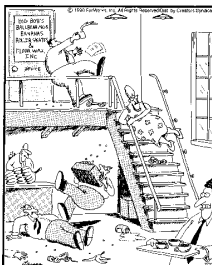


Domis the Menace



© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Non Sequitur





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## Major League Baseball scoreboard

## American League

East Division	L	Pct	GB
New York	58	43.0	0
Baltimore	57	42.5	1
Tampa Bay	45	34.4	13½
Toronto	40	29.1	18½
Boston	40	29.1	18½

Central Division	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	45	33.8	—
Chicago	42	31.5	2½
Minnesota	46	47.9	—
St. Louis	44	32.7	1
Kansas City	34	27.4	15½

West Division	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	53	38.2	—
Seattle	41	31.5	12½
Astoria	44	32.7	1
Oakland	35	28.0	18½

Tuesday's games	L	Pct	GB
N.Y. Yankees @ Kansas City 3	1	0	0
Baltimore @ Tampa Bay 2	1	0	0
Oakland @ Los Angeles 10	1	0	0
Cleveland @ Anaheim 5	1	0	0
Minnesota @ Detroit 4	1	0	0

Wednesday's games	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore @ Boston	1	0	0
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Kansas City @ Detroit	1	0	0
Chicago White Sox @ Cleveland	1	0	0
Anaheim @ Texas	1	0	0

Thursday's games	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore (Lopez 7-6) @ Boston (Wakefield 5-0), 1st game	1	0	0
Kansas City (Lilly 7-7) @ N.Y. Yankees (Ortiz 6-0), 1st game	1	0	0

Friday's games	L	Pct	GB
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Seattle @ Kansas City	1	0	0

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Anaheim @ Baltimore	1	0	0
Detroit @ Chicago White Sox	1	0	0

Sunday's games	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore @ Boston	1	0	0
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## Athletics 1, Blue Jays 0 (14)

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Baltimore @ Tampa Bay 2	1	0	0
Oakland @ Los Angeles 10	1	0	0
Cleveland @ Anaheim 5	1	0	0
Minnesota @ Detroit 4	1	0	0

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Kansas City @ Detroit	1	0	0
Chicago White Sox @ Cleveland	1	0	0
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## Minnesota 5, Cardinals 1, Cubs 8

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Oakland @ Los Angeles 10	1	0	0
Cleveland @ Anaheim 5	1	0	0
Minnesota @ Detroit 4	1	0	0

Wednesday's games	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore @ Boston	1	0	0
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Kansas City @ Detroit	1	0	0
Chicago White Sox @ Cleveland	1	0	0
Anaheim @ Texas	1	0	0

# Indians extend home-run binge vs. Angels

## Hafner belts three of hard-hitting Cleveland's six longballs in 14-5 rout

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Travis Hafner hated to leave Anaheim (10-5) and the last guy out of the shower in the Cleveland Indians' clubhouse.

Hafner hit three homers to match a major league record with five in two games, leading the Indians to a 14-5 rout of the Anaheim Angels on Tuesday.

"Hitting three home runs is pretty special because it doesn't happen very often — especially to me," said Hafner, who had a three-homer game in Double-A ball and another in college. "I guess I can enjoy this one on the plane ride."

Hafner, who went deep in the third, fifth and ninth, was the second player to hit three home runs Tuesday, joining St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols.

He had two homers and five RBIs in Monday night's 8-5 victory — including a go-ahead, three-run shot in the 10th against Troy Percival.

"This is just a place that I'm really comfortable playing in and it's got a good backdrop," Hafner said. "I see the ball pretty good here and I was able to put some good swings on the ball."

Hafner's six RBIs gave him 11 in the two-game series, tying Earl Averill's franchise record for a two-game span. Averill did it in a doubleheader against the Washington Senators on Sept. 17, 1930.

The last time two major league players hit three homers on the same day was Aug. 2, 2002, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.



Victor Martinez, left, congratulates Cleveland Indians teammate Travis Hafner on his fifth-inning home run against the Anaheim Angels on Tuesday in Anaheim, Calif. Hafner hit three home runs for 6 RBIs as the Indians defeated the Angels 14-5. Hafner has driven in 11 runs in the past two games.

That day, Sammy Sosa connected three times for the Chicago Cubs at Coors Field, and Philadelphia's Mike Lieberthal did it in Los Angeles.

Twenty-six players have hit five homers in a two-game span. The last Cleveland player to do it

was Manny Ramirez, on Sept. 15-16, 1998.

It was the second three-homer game by an Indians player this season. Victor Martinez did it Friday at Seattle, when Cleveland tied a franchise mark with eight home runs.

Cleveland hit six Tuesday against the Angels, including solo shots by John McDonald and Coco Crisp and a three-run drive by Martinez in the eighth. The Indians have homered in a season-high eight straight games and have hit 23 during this stretch.

Hafner raised his home run total this season to 17, three more than he hit as a rookie last year. His two drives off Jarrod Washburn (10-5) and a solo shot in the ninth against Francisco Rodriguez made him the seventh player to hit three homers in a game this season.

"I don't think Travis is a streak hitter," McDonald said.

"I've been watching his at-bats all year, so I've seen his patience at the plate, the pitches he swings at and the pitches he doesn't swing at."

"He's hit a lot of balls hard and made a lot of solid outs, so he's been a very consistent hitter all year. He's definitely a big lift in the middle of our lineup, and he lifts the guys around him."

All-Star Jake Westbrook (7-5) won for the first time in seven starts since June 14, when he beat Baltimore 14-0 with a four-hitter. The right-hander was charged with five runs and 10 hits in seven-plus innings after being staked to a 10-1 lead through six.

"It helps a lot because it allows you to go after guys and be aggressive, which is the way I like to pitch, anyway," Westbrook said. Washburn allowed 10 runs —

nine earned — and a career-worst 13 hits in 5 1/3 innings. It was the second time in four starts that the left-hander gave up four home runs. The Oakland Athletics did it against him July 1 in a 7-3 victory — also a day game.

"You shake your head, try to laugh it off and worry about the next one," Washburn said. "It's not hard to forget about something like this."

# A's break through after Harden, Bush trade zeros

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Dave Bush and Rich Harden seemed capable of trading scoreless innings forever.

But Damian Miller is a decade older and a good bit wiser than both young starting pitchers, and he doesn't have that kind of time.

Miller broke up Bush's no-hit bid in the eighth, then won the game with a bases-loaded single in the 14th inning of the Oakland Athletics' 1-0 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday.

Bush and Harden allowed one hit apiece through eight innings, but the game stretched on long after the duel between promising young right-handers ended in a draw. Instead, it was decided by Harden's 34-year-old catcher, who punctuated his resurgence season with the two biggest hits in a game dominated by pitching.

"At [that] point in the game, you just want to get on with it," Miller said of his eighth-inning single. "I felt I had a pretty good block blocking the plate, a couple of hits. I'm tired. I'm really tired, now that I'm thinking about it, and I have to play tomorrow."

When Miller finally got back to his locker, there were two beers waiting on his chair — courtesy of manager Ken Macha,



Toronto's David Bush took a no-hitter into the eighth inning, when he gave up a single to Damian Miller. The Athletics won 1-0.

after Miller jokingly asked for some refreshment during the game.

"I got service from the manager today," he said. "That doesn't happen often."

Jermine Dye led off the 14th with a single off Justin Speier (2-6), Toronto's sixth pitcher. After a sacrifice bunt and two walks, Miller singled to nearly the same spot as his eighth-inning single to left.

It was Oakland's longest 1-0 game since 1986, but the extra innings weren't nearly as impressive as the first eight.

Bush was spectacular in his third major league start, allowing one hit and three

walks while striking out six. The 24-year-old Pittsburgh native was recalled from Triple-A Syracuse on July 2 to take the rotation spot of struggling Pat Hentgen.

"For the most part, I was throwing strikes to both sides of the plate," Bush said. "In the fourth or fifth inning, I started thinking about [a no-hitter]. I knew what was going on."

But Harden matched Bush, yielding two hits and three walks while striking out eight in 8 1/3 innings — the longest start of his career.

"I was in a pretty good rhythm," Harden said. "I was able to make my pitches. It's good to fare well against those guys."

Justin Lehr (1-1) escaped a bases-loaded jam with one out in the 12th and retired the side in order in the 13th and 14th, earning his first major league win as the teams split a two-game series.

**Yankees 4, Devil Rays 2:** Gary Sheffield hit his 397th homer and drove in three runs at Tropicana Field, backing Jose Contreras, who won his fourth straight decision since being reunited with his wife and children from Cuba last month.

Contreras (8-3) allowed two runs and four hits in seven innings to beat Victor Zambrano (9-6) for the second time in 12 days.

Mariano Rivera got his AL-leading 34th save in 35 chances and moved within one of Rick Aguilera for 10th place on the career list with 317.

**Red Sox 9, Mariners 7:** Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz hit consecutive homers to key Boston's eight-run fourth inning in Seattle.

Derek Lowe (8-9) gave up four runs and nine hits in five innings. Keith Foulke, who pitched two innings the previous night, started things for his 15th save in 20 chances.

**Orioles 12, Royals 3:** Karim Garcia began his second stint with Baltimore with two home runs and five RBIs, and the visiting Orioles tied a club record with 11 extra-base hits against Kansas City.

Garcia, acquired Monday from the New York Mets for reliever Mike DeJean, was 0-for-16 in eight games for the Orioles in 2000.

Miguel Tejada, Larry Bigbie and Robert Machado also homered for Baltimore.

**Twins 5, Tigers 4 (10):** Jacques Jones homered and drove in the go-ahead run with a sacrifice fly in the 10th inning.

Justin Morneau also homered for the Twins, who swept the two-game series in Detroit after losing six of their previous seven games.

**Rangers 6, White Sox 4:** Rod Barajas broke the tie in the two-run double, and Gary Matthews Jr. homered in the eighth inning at Ameriquest Field in Arlington to give Texas its fifth win in six games.

Chicago got home runs from Paul Konerko, Jose Valentin and Carlos Lee but dropped out of first place in the AL Central, a half-game behind Minnesota.

AL Roundup

# Pujols' power trip

## His three HRs boost Cards to improbable win at Wrigley

By RICK GANO  
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Albert Pujols winked his approval at a ninth-inning hit-and-run sign and then drove the ball the opposite way — into the right-field basket for his third homer of the game.

Pujols' standout performance on a sticky day at Wrigley Field brought the St. Louis Cardinals back from a six-run deficit and staggered the rival Chicago Cubs in their final meeting this season.

"It's one of those days you never forget," Pujols said after an improbable 11-8 victory. "It was the first time I've hit three home runs and it came at the right time."

For the Cubs, though, the timing couldn't have been worse. It's a defeat they might have trouble getting over, especially after scoring seven runs in the second inning and leading 8-2 after five innings.

"It's a very devastating and tough loss," manager Dusty Baker said.

Pujols went 5-for-5 with a double and five RBIs, and the Cardinals increased their NL Central lead to 10 games over the third-place Cubs. St. Louis won the season series 11-8.

"This is extra special right here," Pujols said. "You're play-



Cubs reliever LaTroy Hawkins, center, is held back by manager Dusty Baker, right, after being ejected Tuesday by home plate umpire Tim Tschida, foreground. Hawkins was angered by Tschida's strike zone.

ing against your rival. I don't think we ever thought we were going to have a lead like this."

After Matt Morris threw a ball behind Chicago's Corey Patterson in the first — the aftermath of a near scuffle the night before — the Cubs jumped on the pitcher for seven runs in the second.

But the sizable lead melted and so did the Cubs' composure.

Reliever LaTroy Hawkins, who gave up Pujols' go-ahead homer, was ejected after he yelled at home plate umpire Tim Tschida as he walked toward the dugout.

An angry Hawkins had to be restrained by Baker and several coaches from going at Tschida.

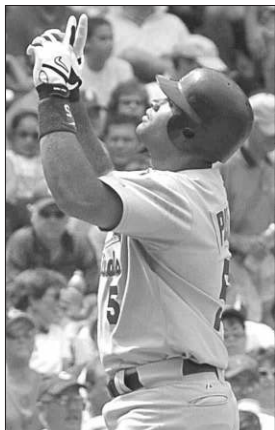
"I talked to him like a man at first and it didn't work. You think I'm going to hit him? I'm not going to hit him," Hawkins said.

In 2002, when Hawkins was with the Twins, Tschida ejected him from a game in a disagreement about the positioning of the reliever's chair in the bullpen.

Tschida said the previous disagreement had no bearing on their argument Tuesday over the location of pitches in the ninth, adding that he never felt threatened by Hawkins' attempts to get at him.

After Pujols' two-run homer broke an 8-8 tie, Reggie Sanders added a solo shot. Jason Iraheta retired Aramis Ramirez on a shallow fly with the bases loaded to end it, getting his 24th save.

Pujols had an RBI double in the first, hit his 25th homer in the third off Chicago starter Glendon Rusch, No. 26 in the seventh off



St. Louis first baseman Albert Pujols, left, enjoyed his first career three-homer game on Tuesday at Chicago's Wrigley Field. He went 5-for-5, drove in five runs and his two-run shot in the ninth broke an 8-8 tie and helped the Cardinals overcome a six-run deficit in the final four innings. St. Louis entered Wednesday 13-2 in July and holding a 9 1/2-game lead over second-place Cincinnati.

Kyle Farnsworth and then his 27th in the ninth.

"We've seen it before, but this is on a big stage in a big game," Morris said.

So Taguchi's homer off Farnsworth in the eighth tied the game 8-8.

"I guess at this point it looks like maybe it's good we're not playing them anymore," Baker said. "Hopefully we'll see them in October when we'll be playing better baseball... I'm not conceding nothing right now. They got 10-game lead. We got a big mountain to climb, but we can overcome it."

The benches emptied Monday

when fiery Cubs starter Carlos Zambrano hit Jim Edmonds with pitches twice and was ejected.

So Morris sent an early message to the Cubs with his pitch behind Patterson.

"I had to stick up for my team, get the warning out early," Morris said. "It was a little bit of a slip, but I didn't let it slip too far."

Derek Lee and Michael Barrett had two-run homers in Chicago's seven-run second. Ramirez hit a solo shot off Cal Eldred in the third.

Note: Mark Prior threw a five-inning simulated game without pain in his elbow and hopes to rejoin Chicago's rotation Sunday in Philadelphia.

# Phillies regain share of first after edging Braves

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Bobby Abreu's RBI single in the 10th inning capped Philadelphia's 30th come-from-behind win of the season, a 4-3 victory over the Atlanta Braves that pulled the Phillies back into a first-place tie in the NL East on Tuesday night.

The Phillies rallied for two unearned runs in the eighth, ruining another strong outing by Atlanta starter Jaret Wright.

In the 10th, Jimmy Rollins led off with a single against Antonio Alfonseca (5-4) and stole second. Chase Utley threw down a bunt in front of the plate, but catcher Eddie Perez bobbled the ball to leave runners at first and third.

Sam Connell took over for Alfonseca, but Abreu managed a single up the middle to give Philadelphia the lead. Shortstop Rafael Furcal, playing in trying to cut off a run at the plate, dove for the ball but only managed to deflect it just beyond the infield dirt.

One night after the Braves took sole possession of the NL East lead for the first time this season, Philadelphia bounced back to earn a split in a two-game series and reclaim a share of the top spot.

The Phillies lead all NL teams in come-from-behind wins.

"This was a game we definitely needed," Philadelphia manager Larry Bowa said. "It was a two-game swing."

Tim Worrell (3-3) earned the win with a



Atlanta's Andrew Jones is forced out on home Tuesday as Philadelphia catcher Mike Lieberthal makes the play.

scoreless inning.

In the ninth, Billy Wagner allowed singles to Andrew Jones and Eli Marrero. Mark DeRosa bunted them over and Wagner walked Rafael Furcal to load the bases. Jones was forced at the plate on Marcus Giles' grounder to third and J.D. Drew lined out to first base, giving Wagner his 15th save.

"I'd like to go out 1-2-3 every time," Wagner said. "But they did me a good job of getting one back. They put me in a situation where I had to make pitches. It was fun."

Giles hit a two-run homer in the first inning, and Jones added a solo shot in the seventh that pushed the Braves to a 3-1 lead.

Wright went seven innings, allowing just four hits and a run, but could only watch as the Phillies bounced back in the eighth.

Furcal bobbled a grounder trying to turn a double play and didn't get anyone out. Philadelphia took advantage, tying the game on Thome's sacrifice fly and David Bell's two-out, run-scoring single.

Wright hasn't lost since May 22, going 5-0 with six no-decisions during that span. But his record (7-5) would be much better if the bullpen had done a better job of protecting leads.

"After something like that, you've got to forget about it as quick as you can," Wright said. "We have been playing good baseball. We had them on their heels. We just couldn't finish on the right side."

In other NL games on Tuesday:

**Pirates 2, Expos 1:** Rookie Sean Burnett (4-2) limited Montreal to one run in seven innings to beat the Expos for the second straight time and Rob Mackowiak hit a two-run homer.

The Pirates won their 11th in 12 home games, but dropped the season series to the Expos for a third consecutive season.

**Marlins 9, Mets 7:** Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in three runs, and Florida won in New York despite blowing an early six-run lead.

Marlins sprained his left wrist when Jason Pierre ran into his arm as he reached for a wide throw at first base in the second inning. X-rays were negative and he was to

be re-evaluated.

**Dodgers 7, Astros 5:** Adrian Beltre hit his 25th homer and drove in two runs to lead the Dodgers to their eighth straight win.

The Dodgers have won 14 of 15 and eight consecutive road games, something they haven't done since June 1982. Los Angeles moved a season-high 16 games above .500.

Eric Gagne got four outs on his 27th save in 28 chances.

**Giants 3, Diamondbacks 1:** In Phoenix, Jerome Williams (9-6) outpitched Randy Johnson (10-8), allowing four hits over seven-plus innings.

Barry Bonds returned to the lineup and was 1-for-4 with a double and an RBI for the Giants, who won for the seventh time in nine games.

The Diamondbacks are winless since the All-Star break and 2-14 under manager Al Pedrique. Arizona has lost 27 of 32 since mid-June.

Johnson (10-8) allowed two earned runs over seven innings with a walk and six strikeouts.

**Padres 9, Rockies 7:** Ryan Klesko homered and drove in three runs at Denver. Khalil Greene had a homer and two RBIs, and Adam Eaton (5-8) avoided becoming the first pitcher since 1976 to lose to an opponent four times in a season.

**Reds 6, Brewers 2:** Brandon Claussen gave up two runs and five hits in seven innings in his long-awaited NL debut, and Jason Romano's first homer lifted host Cincinnati to a two-game sweep.

# Season-ending knee injury makes minor leaguer's slam not so grand

BY BEN WALKER  
The Associated Press

Tagg Bozied could hardly wait to get home. Rounding the bases, he saw his Triple-A Portland teammates gathering, waiting to celebrate his game-winning grand slam in the bottom of the ninth.

"It was probably the coolest moment I've had on a baseball field," the San Diego Padres' prospect said. Then suddenly, agony.

Because as Bozied jumped for joy at the plate, just like the big leaguers do, he felt his left knee give way Monday night. He blacked out before landing and when he came to, there was no doubt. It was. He was done for the year.

"It was real scary. I saw my kneecap pushed up into my quadriceps. I thought my career was over," Bozied said Tuesday in a telephone interview from Oregon.

"To go from hitting a walkoff home run to being wheeled off the field in an ambulance, it's unbelievable," he said. "Guys were hitting me on the helmet, kicking me, congratulating me, and I was down in the dogpile. Then one of them saw the look in my eyes and realized I wasn't kidding, that it was serious."

Talk about adding injury to exult. Bozied ruptured a tendon upon taking off after the 8-5 Pacific Coast League win over Tacoma. He was to fly to San Diego later Tuesday and have an MRI on Wednesday.

Surgery is likely this week and he'll be sidelined for six months. Doctors told him he's expected to be OK for spring training.

Big injuries during celebrations are rare, yet not unique.

Kicker Bill Gramatica tore a knee ligament while jumping after a 42-yard field goal for the Arizona Cardinals late in the 2001 season, and was lost for the year. Washington quarterback Gus Frerette sprained his neck when he celebrated a touchdown run by headbutting a padded concrete wall in 1997.

Minnesota infielder Denny Hocking injured his hand when a teammate stepped on it during a final-out pileup in the first round of the 2002 play-

offs, and was out for the ALCS.

"It's a tragic thing for Tagg," said his manager, Craig Colbert. "It's something you see every day — a winning home run, teammates waiting for him, a guy jumps up and hits home plate."

"But not this time," the former San Francisco catcher said. "It is something that I wish I'd never been a part of."

A third-round pick by the Padres in the June 2002 draft, Bozied was enjoying his best year as a pro despite missing six weeks earlier this season because a hamstring injury.

The first baseman hit .315 with 16 home runs and 58 RBIs in 57 games for the Beavers. In 2002, he led all Padres minor leaguers with 24 homers while splitting the season at Class A and Double-A.

Bozied, who turns 25 on Saturday, had been honored before the game as the PCL's Batter of the Week.

Popular with the home crowds, the Beavers had scheduled a Tagg Bozied bobblehead doll night for Aug. 22. Now, a "Get Well" banner will be put up at PGE Park for fans to sign.

Bozied's slam came after an intentional walk with one out loaded the bases. He launched a shot to left-center field and tried to keep his emotions in check as he headed toward home.

"I was keeping it in. I saw the guys running in from the bullpen, everyone was there at the plate. I was saving it," he said.

Instead, he said, "It felt like my leg got shot off. I wasn't sure, I couldn't feel anything. That's the last thing I remember. The next thing I knew, I was lying on the ground and the guys were on top of me."

The crowd of 2,982 that had been cheering wildly after the Beavers' sixth straight win went silent, as did the music blaring over the stadium sound system. An ambulance took Bozied to a hospital.

Despite what happened, Bozied said he wasn't being too harsh on himself.

"I mean, it's not like I was doing anything crazy or dangerous. You just can't expect things like this," he said. "But I'll tell you one thing: If I ever get lucky enough to hit another game-winning home run, I am definitely not jumping on home plate."

**"To go from hitting a walkoff home run to being wheeled off the field in an ambulance, it's unbelievable."**

**Tagg Bozied**  
Padres minor leaguer

# Selig: NL could keep All-Star Game in '07

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Baseball might abandon its long-standing policy of alternating All-Star sites between National League and American League cities and award the 2007 game to another NL city, Commissioner Bud Selig said Tuesday.

Minutes after officially announcing Pittsburgh would host its second All-Star Game in 12 years in 2006, Selig said he expects to reveal the 2007, 2008 and 2009 sites later this summer.

With San Francisco, Arizona, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and San Diego all playing in new or relatively new ballparks and St. Louis to follow in 2006, one NL city would have to wait until 2018 for an All-Star Game should baseball stay with its tradition, but no longer mandatory rotation.

By contrast, only the refurbished Anaheim Angels ballpark and Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg won't have been All-Star sites among the newer AL parks, once Detroit stages the 2005 game.

"I don't believe that it (the rotation) is as important as it used to be," Selig said. "I think the important thing is to try to be fair. In a perfect world, you would alternate NL and AL, but it's more important to reward franchises. I think, that really need to have the game because of their venue. There are so many great new ballparks, and that's the nice part."

Pittsburgh and San Francisco also wanted the 2006 game, which was awarded to Pittsburgh partly to pump up the Pirates' slumping attendance. Their average crowd has dropped to 10,000 a game since PNC Park opened in 2001, even though the riverfront ballpark is widely regarded as one of baseball's best venues.

## Mets recall top prospect

NEW YORK — The New York Mets recalled third baseman David Wright, the team's top prospect, from Triple-A Norfolk late Tuesday night.

Wright is expected to be in the

## Briefs

starting lineup for Wednesday's game against Montreal.

The move was made after first baseman Mike Piazza sprained his left wrist in a collision at first base with Juan Pierre in the second inning of a 9-7 loss to Florida on Tuesday.

X-rays were negative, and Piazza will be re-evaluated Wednesday.

## RHP Brown makes rehab start

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The New York Yankees' Kevin Brown allowed two runs in five hits in four innings Tuesday night in a rehabilitation pitch at Triple-A Columbus.

Brown has been on the 15-day DL since June 10 with a lower back strain. He allowed one hit in each of the first two innings before allowing a two-run homer to Henri Stanley in the third.

Earlier Tuesday, the Yankees optioned left-hander Alex Graman to Columbus and recalled reliever Scott Proctor.

## Bragg opts for free agency

DENVER — San Diego Padres outfielder Darren Bragg opted for free agency after being sent down Tuesday to Triple-A Portland.

The Padres sent Bragg down after receiving shortstop Rich Aurilia in a trade Monday with Seattle.

Bragg batted .143 and scored two runs in nine games after signing as a free agent with the Padres on July 4.

## Benoit on bereavement list

ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas Rangers right-hander Joaquin Benoit was placed on the bereavement list Tuesday so he could return to the Dominican Republic after the death of his grandmother.

The Rangers recalled right-hander Nick Regilio from Triple-A Oklahoma to fill Benoit's spot on the roster.

# MLB denies Pirates to play in San Juan

BY ALAN ROBINSON  
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Pirates won't be asked to shift any home games to Puerto Rico next season despite the popularity of Hall of Famer Roberto Clemente's former team there, Commissioner Bud Selig said Tuesday.

Selig denied that his office would ask the Pirates to play one series in San Juan in 2005 to partly make up for the Montreal Expos' expected absence. The Expos scheduled 22 home games in Puerto Rico each of the last two seasons as they prepare to relocate to a new home.

Any possibility of a Pirates return visit probably ended when the Expos and Pirates drew four-figure crowds for each game of a four-game series July 8-11.

"As far as our experiment with Puerto Rico, it was pretty much done this year, at least for a while," Selig said.

The Expos averaged only 10,333 for their 22 games in San Juan this season — about half what the Pirates drew in Pittsburgh — compared to the 14,222 they averaged for the same number of games in 2003.

Selig would consider going back to Puerto Rico only if a team

asked to play there, and team spokesman Jim Trdinich said the Pirates have had no such request.

The Pirates expect their attendance to jump next season as fans buy season tickets in anticipation of landing seats to the 2006 All-Star Game, so they have no plans of asking any home games to be moved.

The Pirates remain one of Puerto Rico's favorite teams because of Clemente's continued popularity there. Clemente was a star outfielder for the Pirates from 1955-72 before dying in a plane crash during an earthquake relief mission to Nicaragua on Dec. 31, 1972.

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## NCAA Council seeks recruiting alterations

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI  
The Associated Press

Under new rules designed to take the "celebrity" out of the recruiting race, colleges will no longer be able to put recruits on private jets, house them in resort hotels or feed them extravagant meals.

The NCAA Management Council concluded a two-day meeting in Baltimore on Tuesday and will forward the recommendations to the organization's board of directors for emergency approval Aug. 5.

The council also agreed to advance a package of proposals from the National Association of Basketball Coaches that focus on recruiting, retaining and graduating Division I players.

The package includes granting players five years of eligibility, allowing coaches to talk with players outside the traditional player-coach environment and hold tryouts to evaluate prospects.

The package will be examined by member schools, with an initial vote expected in January 2005 and a final vote in April.

The recruiting recommendations call for colleges and universities to use commercial airlines and coach airfares to fly athletes to campus, lodge them in "standard" accommodations and serve them reasonable meals.

"It's intended to do away with the celebrity, the sense of entitlement, for a prospect," said David Berst, NCAA vice president and chair of the recruiting task force.

The new rules, which would be in place for the upcoming academic year, also ban schools from giving recruits rides in vehicles not used for other prospective students. Schools would also be prevented from handing out personalized jerseys or using audio/video scoreboard presentations featuring the player.

The new rules will also require each school to adopt a written policy outlining the guidelines for official visits prohibiting the use of alcohol, drugs, sex and gambling in recruiting. The presidents or chancellors must approve the policies and submit them to their conference officials by Dec. 1.

## Davies leads Evian Masters

The Associated Press

EVIAN, France — British veteran Laura Davies made an eagle and seven birdies and shot 8-under-par 64 on Wednesday to take the first-round lead of the

\$257 million Evian Masters.

### Sports briefs

World No. 1 Annika Sorenstam shot 66 and was in second place with

Lynette Brooky and Mara Prieto. U.S. Women's Open winner Meg Mallon and 14-year-old Michelle Wie carded 71s, finishing the opening round tied for 25th.

Davies said watching last week's British Open up close as a TV commentator had allowed her to glean tips for her game.

"It was watching the guys play last week that really helped me today," said Davies, who longest birdie putt was only 12 feet. "Their rhythm, just how easy they hit the ball. I picked something up about tempo and kept it in mind here."

"If I keep putting like I did today I've got a chance to win this thing."



**Michelle Wie, derailed by a double-bogey on the 12th hole Wednesday, shot 1-under 71 and trails the leader by seven shots.**

In sunny, windless conditions, Sorenstam had seven birdies, four on the front. Her lone bogey was on the 10th, where she missed a 4-foot par putt.

"It's a great start," the Swede said. "I had a real good feel today and hit solid right from the start."

"The greens are holding well and you can really fire at the pins. Plus, there's no real roll on the fairways so you won't run into the rough."

Several hundred spectators followed Wie, who had an up-and-down day. She made 18- and 9-foot birdie putts on Nos. 1 and 8, but hooked a 7-iron shot out of bounds on the 12th for double-bogey. She also made a three-putt bogey on the 14th.

"I don't care about what the score or my position is," she said. "I'm just happy to have made so many good putts today for par."

### V. Williams rolls in Calif.

CARSON, Calif. — Venus Williams overhauled Ashley Harkleroad 6-2, 6-1 Tuesday night in the second round of the JPMorgan Chase Open.

Williams, the No. 2 seed, hit powerful groundstrokes to clinch the 50-minute match that sent Harkleroad scrambling behind the baseline.

"She's a good player," Williams said of Harkleroad. "She's very consistent, she moves well and she's solid. It's important to go out and force the issue, which I did today. If I can just go out and overpower somebody, it can be intimidating."

French Open finalist and No. 4 seed Elena Dementieva defeated qualifier Lilia Osterloh 6-4, 6-2 to become the first of the top eight seeded players to advance through the second round of the \$585,000 tournament.

Top-seeded Serena Williams and three-time tournament champion Lindsay Davenport begin play Wednesday.

### Gators suspend two football players for season opener

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Florida suspended linebacker Channing Crowder and safety Jarvis Herring for the season opener after both were arrested for scuffling with police outside a local nightclub earlier this summer, the school said Tuesday.

The Gators open the 2004 season at home against Middle Tennessee on Sept. 4.

Crowder, the SEC Freshman Defensive Player of the Year, was charged with disorderly conduct after he got into a loud argument outside The Palace nightclub, a Gainesville police report said.

Herring, who played in 11 games last season, was charged with resisting or obstructing without violence.

## Owners, union ready to resume labor talks

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Hoping to stave off the second lockout in 11 seasons, the NHL and the players' association were scheduled to meet Wednesday to resume negotiations on a collective bargaining agreement.

The current deal, extended twice since it was signed in 1995, expires Sept. 15. If a new agreement isn't reached by then, a lockout that could threaten the entire season is expected to be imposed.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman has vowed on behalf of the owners to work out a deal with the union that will radically change the financial landscape of the league. He is determined to make sure the percentage of revenues paid in player salaries is sliced, and to establish "cost certainty" for clubs.

An economic study commissioned by the NHL found that players get 76 percent of all league revenues — about 20 percent more than the percentage for other major team sports.

### Briefs

#### Samsonov re-signs with Bruins; Nilsson, Halpern stay put

The Boston Bruins re-signed star wing Sergei Samsonov on Tuesday while the Calgary Flames agreed to terms with Marcus Nilsson, locking up one of their key players from this spring's playoff run.

Samsonov, limited to 66 games (22 goals, 29 assists) the past two seasons by injuries, agreed to a one-year, \$3.65 million offer.

Nilsson had 11 goals and 31 assists in 83 games with Florida and Calgary last season. The defensive-minded forward finished fourth in playoff scoring for the Flames with 11 points in 26 games.

Also on Tuesday, the Washington Capitals re-signed center Jeff Halpern to a one-year deal. He was the Capitals' leading scorer last season with 19 goals and 27 assists. Terms of the deal were not announced.

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# O'Neal makes grand entrance

## New franchise player arrives, promises Miami an NBA title

BY STEVEN WINE  
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal weighs 340 pounds, and he's hungry.

He wants to show the NBA that the Los Angeles Lakers kept the wrong All-Star. He plans to do it by leading the Miami Heat to a championship.

O'Neal made a grand entrance Tuesday at a rally welcoming him to Miami. He arrived in a semi-tractor trailer with the words "Diesel Power" on the side, emerged from the cab firing a plastic water cannon at the crowd of several thousand, then followed a red carpet up the steps to the Heat's arena.

Once at the top, he pledged that an even bigger celebration is in the future.

"I'm going to bring a championship to Miami," O'Neal told the fans. "I promise."

At a news conference that followed, O'Neal spoke little about his differences with Kobe Bryant and Lakers management that triggered the trade. He said he appreciates the way he has been embraced in Miami.

"I told my wife when I was rolling up, I felt like the president," he said. O'Neal then hummed "Hail to the Chief."

The rally came six days after the Heat acquired the 11-time All-Star in a trade that sent three starters to Los Angeles. Such festivities might seem premature to some cities, but Miami loves celebrities — and winners.

Heat President Pat Riley remembers the sellout crowd the attendance-challenged Florida Marlins drew for last year's World Series, and anticipates the same kind of box-office boost from O'Neal, especially if he leads the Heat to their first title.

"We have definitely been blessed," Riley said. "Someone he found his way down here to Miami — the most talented, most dominant player in the world."

The first game is still 3½ months away, but O'Neal already is the most entertaining act in town, and he never went without a quip.

■ On buying a home in South Florida: "I will be walking naked on the beach. If you take pictures of me naked on the beach, don't sell them to the Enquirer unless I



Shaquille O'Neal, who was greeted by a frenzied crowd in Miami on Tuesday, sees himself as the catalyst that can propel the Heat to an NBA championship. Miami was eliminated in the second round last season.

get 15 percent."

■ On being 32 years old: "I'm like toilet paper, toothpaste and certain amenities — I'm proven to be good. I've still got five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10 years left."

■ On his weight: "I play my best ball at 345. I need my meat, because I'm going to take a beating. If you put a guy in front of me who eats salad and cucumber and baked chicken all day, I'll kill him."

O'Neal referred to himself as "the Millennium Goliath," but even the world's most dominant player will need help transforming the Heat into champions.

They've lost the entire front line from a team that went 42-40 last season and made an improbable run to the second round of the playoffs. O'Neal offered to help Riley recruit free agents to fill the roster openings created by the departure of center Brian Grant and

forwards Caron Butler and Lamar Odom to the Lakers.

O'Neal is happy to join a team that includes guard Eddie Jones, Miami's top scorer the past four years, and guard Dwyane Wade, a standout last season as a rookie.

"They could have easily been in the Eastern Conference championships," O'Neal said. "They're one or two pieces away. And you've got a big piece now."

# Sixers trade Snow to Cavaliers

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — With a big contract and without a starting spot, point guard Eric Snow became expendable in Philadelphia.

Snow will likely find himself in the same situation this season, only in Cleveland after he was traded by the 76ers to the Cavaliers on Tuesday for guards Kevin Ollie and Kendrick Brown.

Snow spent 6½ seasons with the 76ers, averaging 9.7 points and 6.5 assists while helping them to the 2001 Eastern Conference championship.

"I'm excited and thankful," Snow said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I'm going to a team that wanted me, and wanted me to be the player I am. Cleveland is a nice, young team that is hoping to go to the playoffs, and hopefully I can come and help them accomplish that goal."

**Sacramento signs longtime Jazz center Ostarag**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Center Greg Ostarag signed with the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday, leaving the Utah Jazz after nine seasons.

He signed with Sacramento on the same day center Vladi Divac left the Kings to rejoin the Los Angeles Lakers. Terms of Ostarag's



deal weren't immediately available.

Ostarag averaged 5.1 points, 5.9 rebounds and 1.85 blocks during his career with the Jazz, who made him a first-round draft pick in 1995. He played in two NBA Finals with Utah in 1997 and 1998.

In Sacramento, Ostarag will back up All-Star center Brad Miller and forward Chris Webber. The Kings once had one of the NBA's deepest frontcourts, but Divac, Scott Pollard, Keon Clark, Tony Massenburg and Hedo Turkoglu have departed in the last year.

**Golden State swaps Van Exel for Davis, Dickau**

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Golden State Warriors traded point guard Nick Van Exel to the Portland Trail Blazers on Tuesday for forward Dale Davis and guard Dan Dickau.

Van Exel was injured for much of his only season with the Warriors, who acquired him from Dallas last summer in a trade involving Antawn Jamison. He averaged 12.6 points while playing just 39 games, leaving the team

for good shortly after the All-Star break with a knee injury.

Portland will be the fifth NBA team for Van Exel, whose future with Golden State probably ended when the Warriors signed point guard Derek Fisher to a six-year, \$37 million contract last week.

The Warriors also have Speedy Claxton under contract for next season.

Van Exel will make approximately \$12 million next season. He has been a dependable scorer and playmaker throughout his career, and the Trail Blazers could use him at both guard positions.

**Walker hired as Hornets assistant**

NEW ORLEANS — Former NBA player and coach Darrell Walker was hired Wednesday as an assistant to New Orleans Hornets coach Byron Scott.

Walker played 10 years in the NBA and had short stints as head coach of the Toronto Raptors and Washington Wizards. He has been in the Wizards' front office as player personnel director or scout the past four years.

Walker led the Raptors to a 30-52 record in 1996-97. He resigned Feb. 13, 1998, with an overall record of 41-90. Early in 2000 he became Washington's interim coach and went 15-23. Walker also coached in the CBA and WNBA.

# HOF guard Robertson named interim coach at Cincinnati

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Oscar Robertson, Cincinnati's greatest player, will serve as the Bearcats' interim head coach until Bob Huggins returns from suspension Aug. 27.

The Hall of Famer replaces Dan Peters, who left Cincinnati on Tuesday to become an assistant coach at Ohio State.

"I appreciate Oscar's willingness to step up for his university and its basketball program," athletic director Bob Geis said in a statement. "He provides a wonderful opportunity for our young men to learn from a great basketball player and a leader in the business and the community."

Geis said Robertson has agreed to provide oversight and meet with players on a regular basis, as well as provide counseling on their academic responsibilities. Robertson will not have any off-campus recruiting duties, but will be allowed to participate in on-campus recruiting as permitted under NCAA rules, Geis said.

Robertson said in the statement released by the school that he considers it a great honor and opportunity to work for the school he played for from 1957-60.

"I will do whatever I can to help develop these young men for their futures on and off the court," he said.

Robertson could not be reached for comment Tuesday night.

Robertson, The Associated Press' player of the year in 1959 and '60, still holds Cincinnati records for points and rebounds.

Robertson played 14 seasons in the NBA for the Cincinnati Royals and Milwaukee Bucks. He made the All-Star team 12 times.

Huggins has been suspended for a drunken driving conviction.

Huggins, who began a new three-year contract July 1, was placed on paid, indefinite suspension June 12, following his arrest for driving under the influence.

The 50-year-old pleaded no contest, was fined \$350 and given a suspended six-month jail sentence that required him to attend a three-day education course.



# Stars: Timing, performance factors for standout Olympians

## STARS, FROM BACK PAGE

Stacy Dragila in track and field, or Jenny Thompson in swimming?

### Name game

"There's no telling who'll be the star," said Detroit-based agent Shep Goldberg, whose two major clients happen to be two of the most enduring Olympic celebrities — Mary Lou Retton and Michelle Kwan. So what makes a Retton or Kwan stand out from the plentiful collection of U.S. medalists?

"Obviously, the accomplishment plays a large part," Goldberg said. "And if they're well-grounded, seen as regular people, don't take what they've done too seriously and don't let the whole thing envelop them, or let the celebrity change them. It's not just being a gold medalist that catches the public's fancy."

And, by extension, the market-er's fancy.

Generally, sports marketing experts agree, the predictors of long-term Olympic fame are performance, having a story (in some cases, a gimmick — what if former Texas triple jumper Chris Hercules had made the U.S. team and won gold in Greece?), timing; participation in the higher-visibility sports such as gymnastics, swimming or track, and staying on stage via multiple events or more than one Olympic cycle.

Athens possibilities, then: Kuppel and Patterson combine back-from-devastating-injury-to-championship-form tales with the built-in affection NBC has for gymnastics — particularly women's gymnastics.

Having paid \$793 million for the rights to televise 1210 hours of the Games (both on network and cable partnerships, compared to 441 hours in 2000), NBC's power to shape Olympic headlines has almost tripled. Just since Sydney, And the U.S. won-

en's gymnastics team appears poised to take advantage of that, going to Greece as the reigning world champions.

Besides Phelps, swimming will present Coughlin, potentially a triple gold medalist and well-spoken Cal-Berkeley graduate who missed last year's world championships because of a frightening, undiagnosed fever.

And there is Thompson, in her fourth Olympics at 31, on sabbatical from medical school, recovering emotionally from her mother's death from cancer in February, already a winner of more gold medals (eight) than any U.S. woman — but all of them in U.S. plays. She still seeks an individual Olympic victory.

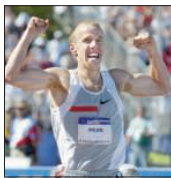
Dragila represents women of strength and experience in the pole vault, one of the more popular events in Sydney, and is caught in an extended taffy-pull for the world record with two Russians.

Greene's appeal is the near-clu-

shed swagger of being the World's Fastest Human, back from a broken leg suffered in a motorcycle accident. But his race, the 100 meters, keeps him in the spotlight barely 10 seconds, and the spreading steroid scandal in his sport, particularly among sprinters, is not helpful.

Others could flash, up close and personal, into American living rooms: softball pitcher Jennie Finch, rower Jason Read, whose job as emergency medical technician and firefighter made him a first responder on 9/11, and Brooklyn fencer Keith Smart.

The ideal candidate for special Olympic status, in the judgment of Rich Kenan, former middle distance runner and director of marketing for Boston-based Global Athletics & Marketing, Inc., "is a potential contender (who) comes through with the gold, wearing the colors of red, white and blue, performing above all expectations, and, upon reaching the victory stand, an exciting and emotional."



Alan Webb will attempt to become the first U.S. man to medal in the 1,500 meters since 1968.

Then again, Kwan has hit the Olympic star jackpot despite two Winter Olympics disappointments — one silver and one bronze medal.

Goldberg believes Kwan's place in the Olympic pantheon of heroes is due to Kwan's career accomplishments — five world figure-skating titles combined with an appealing accessibility.

"She let people know she hurt when she lost," Goldberg said. "It was real. At the end of the day, she was herself."

### Personality plus

Obviously, there is no manufacturing personality, which explains the likes of Retton and wrestler Rulon Gardner, with whom Goldberg also briefly worked. "Mary Lou has this natural bubbly-ness and approachability," Goldberg said. "I can't tell you how many people have said to me, 'Is Mary Lou as nice as she seems?' Same thing with Michelle."

"With Rulon, he's incredibly honest, very straightforward, doesn't take his celebrity seriously."

With an established name, Gardner is one who has a head start on Athens. But, because the Olympics, unlike other major spectator sports with their long seasons, is a mini-series with a relatively tiny window of athletic exposure opening briefly every fourth year, the need to identify new stars is a major business.

"Especially now, with Marion Jones, so central a character in Sydney, suddenly diminished. 'If I were USA Track & Field,' Global Athletics president Mark Wetmore said, 'I would talk about Alan Webb every chance I get.'"

Webb's rickrolling 1,500-meter victory to conclude the track trials here Sunday revived the hubbub over his news-making high school mile record of three years ago, which surpassed a hallowed 36-year-old standard set by household name Jim Ryun. Still only 21, Webb is a fresh face in a high-profile Olympic sport, a regular and approachable chap who signs autographs minutes before big races, confident but respectful of his opponents.

If he should win gold, he wouldn't be just another NFL quarterback or baseball All-Star. "Olympic athletes come up like Sarah," Goldberg said. "She was fresh and it was a nice story. People come along; they're not in your face every day. The Olympic magic."

That magic is one reason NBC shelled out \$793 million.

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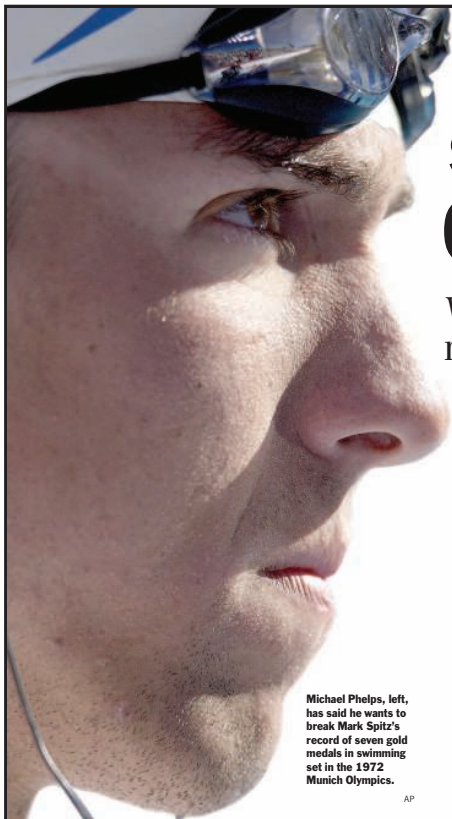
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## SPORTS



Armstrong wins time trial, extends lead in quest for sixth straight title, Page 40



Michael Phelps, left, has said he wants to break Mark Spitz's record of seven gold medals in swimming set in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

AP

# Reality TV: searching for Olympic stars

Who will emerge as fan favorites, media darlings in Athens Games?

BY JOHN JEANSONNE

Newsday

**S**everal key indicators in various just-completed Olympic trials suggest a U.S. star recession in next month's Athens Olympics. Now that Marion Jones has lost much of her golden-girl shine — going 1-for-3 in track trials events and burdened by unsettling relationships — there appear to be precious few Americans for NBC-TV and Madison Avenue to wrap their arms around.

A clear exception is 19-year-old swimmer Michael Phelps, whose pursuit of as many as eight medals will create a sort of underwater reality show in the Games, played out over several dramatic days.

Phelps' sport, his smashing athletic deeds — world records in four events — and his compelling multi-medal attempt all place him high in the pecking order for producing Olympic celebrity. Plus, the giant sports marketing firm Octagon is working hard to package Phelps as the fellow who can bring wider attention to swimming.

But it hardly is clear that Phelps, polite but not particularly spontaneous in public settings, will go beyond athletically awesome to personally embraceable in the American consciousness.

Though he obviously is worthy of being compared to Mark Spitz, Phelps' star quickly could dim should he fall short of Spitz's 1972 seven-gold-medal record.

So if not Phelps, then who? Fresh faces such as gymnasts Courtney Kupets or Carly Patterson, swimming's Natalie Coughlin, track's Alan Webb? Olympic veterans Maurice Greene or

SACRAMENTO, Calif.



Courtney Kupets, who finished first in the U.S. trials and has a chance of winning the all-around title in women's gymnastics, is an Olympian a year after rupturing her left Achilles tendon.

AP

SEE STARS ON PAGE 47

**Pujols has first three-homer game, Cardinals come back to win final meeting of season with Cubs**

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**Hafner hammers three more homers as Indians complete two-game sweep of Angels**

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**O'Neal receives hero's welcome from fans in Miami, promises to lead Heat to NBA title**

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**Minor leaguer suffers bizarre injury after slam**

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